

مكة المكرمة



BKME
EXPRESS TRANSFERS
To Major Cities in
INDIA
Competitive Rates. Fast Delivery

ARAB TIMES

Try the
ONLY
Long Life
MILK (UHT)
produced locally
from fresh milk
FULL CREAM OR
HALF CREAM MILK

KUWAIT DAIRY CO.
To deliver at your needs of
ICE CREAM & FRESH
PASTEURISED MILK and its products
Tel: 4670088 - 4678703

NO. 7666 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1989/SAFAR 19, 1410 AH 22 PAGES 150 FILLS

Share battle in oil to go on

NICOSIA, Sept. 18, (Reuters): Kuwait's Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah said in remarks published today he saw no end to competition within Opec for individual market shares as the group does not approach its quota problems realistically.

"I can still see, over the next two or three years, (Opec) countries trying to grab a little more, countries being dissatisfied and endeavouring to increase their production," the Middle East Economic Survey (Mees) quoted Sheikh Ali as saying at the closed-door Oxford energy seminar on September 15.

Kuwait had rejected last June the individual sales quota allocated to it by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec).

It claimed the quota was too small for its production and export capacity and that Kuwait suffered by keeping its output low in the past for price stability.

It now produces around 1.7 million to 1.8 million barrels per day (BPD), crude, oil industry sources in the Gulf said. Its Opec-allocated quota stands at 1.093 million BPD.

Opec's eight-member price monitoring committee will meet in Geneva on Sept. 23 to discuss the market situation and whether the demand on Opec oil requires an increase in Opec's total production ceiling.

Opec's total output is seen by market observers around 21.5 million BPD, compared with its 19.5 million BPD ceiling, due to excess output by Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

"If Opec wants to solve its problems in a realistic way, it must look at the positions of the problem countries," Mees reported Sheikh Ali as saying.

Sheikh Ali described the problem countries as those which have long felt they have been cheated or not given their due share with regard to quotas.

"So I do not see much of an improvement in bringing about a reduction of competition among producing countries," Sheikh Ali was quoted by Mees as saying.

"The trend will therefore will be using the existing capacities, rather than exercising restraint."



Ullman lifts Emmy
Tracy Ullman clowns for the photographers after winning the Variety Music or Comedy Programme at September 17 Emmy Awards. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviets may cut arms to Syria

MOSCOW, Sept. 18, (Reuters): The Soviet Union is considering cutting military aid to Syria, but says it has no intention of weakening its close relationship with Damascus. The Kremlin is Syria's main arms supplier.

Moscow's Ambassador to Syria, Alexander Dzasokhov, told a news conference today that the Soviet Union was reviewing Syria's requests for military aid for the next five years.

"I can tell you that they are being scrutinised critically and if there are any changes they will be in favour of reductions," he said.

Dzasokhov's noted there was concern in Syria over whether Moscow's preoccupation with domestic problems and conversion of part of its military production to peaceful use would affect Syria's defence.

"Of course these factors will influence bilateral relations but in no way will they be weakened," he said.

Dzasokhov said Syrian officials, when asking for Soviet aid, often used the argument that Israel receives arms from the United States free of charge. Damascus is a hard-line opponent of Israel and the main foreign power-broker in Lebanon.

"But until now Syria pays us — may be not to the full extent. We have certain conditions for military operations — 50 per cent of the cost can be on credit for 10 years at two per cent interest," he said.

Israel, Hungary set ties; Austria backs off

BUDAPEST, Sept. 18, (Agencies): Hungary restored full diplomatic relations to Israel today, becoming the first East bloc nation to revive relations with Jerusalem in more than 30 years.

Hungary's official news agency MTI announced the diplomatic move shortly after Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens arrived in the capital on an official visit.

MTI said an agreement on the re-establishment of diplomatic relations was signed by Arens and Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn.

In Jerusalem, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir praised Hungary's "courageous and strong" decision as a victory against worldwide "defamation and malignance" of the Jewish state.

"This is a diplomatic affair that can have an effect on the rest of Eastern Europe," Shamir told Israeli Radio.

All Soviet bloc nations except Romania cut diplomatic ties to Israel after the 1967 Middle East war, when Israel captured portions of Syria, Jordan and Egypt.

Arens said today's signing of the protocol on re-establishing full diplomatic ties was "a historic step in the right direction." MTI said.

"These ties will bring economic, social and political benefits to Israel and also to Hungary," the Russian-born Arens told Israeli Radio in an interview from Budapest.

The Hungarian initiative underlined the Budapest government's determination to continue its increasingly independent foreign policy and opening to the West.

Horn, as quoted by MTI, said re-establishment of ties after 22 years marked another step in Hungary's reform drive and attempt to correct what he termed past mistakes.

Austria is downgrading diplomatic relations with Israel because the Jewish state refuses to send an ambassador to Vienna while Kurt Waldheim is President, the Foreign Ministry said today.

Austria's Ambassador to Israel, Otto Pleinert, has been reassigned to Stockholm, a ministry spokesman told Reuters.

Gulf is not your dump

MANAMA, Bahrain, Sept. 18, (AP): Saudi Arabia's rejection of 400,000 allegedly dumped Australian sheep has highlighted misgivings in the Gulf region over dumping of low-quality goods by so-called "trade vipers."

The oil-rich peninsula once was easy prey for merchants to dump outdated items, discards, commodities banned in their countries, end-of-season goods, counterfeit products, or food and medicine with expired validity dates.

That is changing as countries like Bahrain enforce tough standards, said Ali Al Askari, superintendent of the small island nation's food hygiene department at the Ministry of Health.

The sheep saga touched a raw nerve in the Gulf, where the Saudis move sparked renewed efforts to stop imports of substandard goods.

"One has to be alert to everything," Askari told reporters on a tour of food stores to check that packages of cheese were kept properly refrigerated.

"Any company that tries to dump bad goods on us finds the price quite high," he said. Its products are black-listed in Bahrain and risk the same fate in other Gulf nations.

Unscrupulous dealers have been known to sell car tyres that have lingered on warehouse shelves in other countries for years, capitalising on the fact they are not stamped with expiration dates.

Highways between Saudi Arabian cities used to be littered with burst tyres.

Imported frozen meat has an expiration date, but frozen minced meat does not, so a merchant on the take could try outstayed meat cheaply, sell it at market prices and make a handsome profit.

It was not uncommon to find weevils squirreling inside packets of dried figs or even glossy-looking cartons of corn flakes, as the heat and sometimes inefficient handling compounded problems caused by errors.

But after suffering years as a dumping ground for low-quality goods in the oil-boom years, the Gulf countries are developing consumer-protection laws.

"It's a slow process and it's not easy," said Khaled Fakhr, head of Bahrain's year-old standardisation and certification department. "The range of commodities that we import is immense. But we have decided that if we cannot control the majority, at least we have taken the first steps."

Religiously conscious Muslims food inspectors throughout the Gulf region come down hard on consignments of meat not slaughtered in accordance with Islamic tradition.

They are also on alert to detect goods that have no Arabic labels specifying contents — particularly pork, which is forbidden for Muslims — and to ensure that imported goods cater to the large expatriate community.

In Saudi Arabia, deputy Commerce Minister Abdel-Rahman Al Zamil recently said authorities were studying an anti-dumping law.

"Like other developing countries, we are threatened with dumping, but in the case of the kingdom, the problem is more serious as we follow a free economy, run mainly by the private sector," he said.

The Gulf countries have become showcases of products from around the globe.

At a department store like Ashraf's in Bahrain, owner Inge Ashraf says she imports thousands of items, with glittering names such as Christian Dior, Lancome, Arden, Guerlain, Givenchy, Kodak, Sony, Casio, Jaeger, Nivea, Ricel and Royal Brierley crystal.

Turks accept Kuwaiti offer

Talks on Bulgarian Muslims likely

KUWAIT, Sept. 18, (Agencies): Turkey has accepted a Kuwaiti offer to convene a meeting to try to resolve its dispute with Bulgaria over the mass exodus of ethnic Turks, Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah said today.

"Turkey has accepted efforts made by HH the Amir of Kuwait to resolve the problem of the Muslim minority in Bulgaria," Sheikh Sabah told reporters.

The Amir, current head of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, visited Bulgaria and Turkey earlier this month to discuss the dispute.

Hundreds of thousands of ethnic Turks have fled to Turkey from Bulgaria this year, saying they were being subjected to a forcible assimilation campaign.

Sheikh Sabah said Turkish President Kenan Evren told the Amir through diplomatic channels that he agreed to Kuwait's proposal for convening a high-level Turkish-Bulgarian meeting in Kuwait.

He said contacts were under way with the two countries to "determine the level of delegations and a date for the proposed meeting."

Asked if he expected it to take place this month, Sheikh Sabah said: "We wish so since our aim is to solve the problem between the two neighbouring countries through dialogue and in a friendly manner."

Sheikh Sabah did not elaborate the Kuwaiti initiative, aimed at arresting the crisis between Turkey and the East bloc country, and finding a solution for more than 300,000 ethnic Turks who fled Bulgaria amid a forced assimilation campaign.

Turkey seeks an agreement protecting the rights of the Turks who fled and those who are still in Bulgaria, while Bulgaria wants bilateral talks to cover a broader range of topics. Ankara fears this would detract from the urgency of the situation.

Turkey also seeks financial assistance to help harbour the refugees.



A general view of the building which collapsed in Beirut's southern suburbs when it was hit by a shell during the overnight artillery battles between Syrian and Christian forces. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rain of shells on Aoun veto

Arab guarantees sought

BEIRUT, Sept. 18, (Agencies): Random barrages of rocket and artillery fire rained on Beirut today after Christian Army commander Gen. Michel Aoun rejected a proposed security committee to monitor a ceasefire in his six-month-old war against Syrian troops.

Aoun said today he needed written Arab guarantees that Syria would withdraw its troops from Lebanon as his condition for implementing an Arab League peace plan.

Sources close to Aoun said he asked for the guarantees and for clarification of the peace plan when it was presented to him by Arab League Assistant Secretary-General Lakhdar Brahimi.

Police said at least six people were killed and 14 wounded in the exchanges, which at times averaged 20 shells per minute.

The casualties included three bodies and seven wounded civilians retrieved from under the rubble of a seven-storey apartment building, demolished in the concentrated shelling of the Shiite Muslim slum of Haret Hreik.

That brought the overall casualty toll to 921 killed and 2,713 wounded since March 8 when the confrontation erupted between Aoun's estimated 20,000 troops and the Syrians.

Three more people still are missing and feared dead under the debris of the Mokdad building which collapsed while its inhabitants were sheltering in the underground basement.

The spokesman said the duels broke out around 1 am (2200 GMT Sunday), only 90 minutes after Aoun announced in a televised interview his rejection of the security committee proposed by Arab mediators on Saturday.

"I won't accept at all a Lebanese-Lebanese committee. This is what the Syrians wanted to say the clashes have been among Lebanese factions," Aoun said.

That was a reference to the absence of a Syrian representative of the proposed security body.

Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today renewed Kuwait's support to the tripartite committee on Lebanon.

Al Ibrahim, who was chosen by the Arab mediation committee with leading the proposed security committee, met with Aoun for one hour at the latter's bomb-ravaged presidential palace in suburban Baabda.

After the session, the Algerian diplomat, said: "The discussion with the general was useful and positive."

"We discussed ways of implementing the Arab committee's decisions. I'll continue my consultations with the Lebanese officials and hold another meeting with the general tomorrow."

Hostage drama Schoolboy holds class

MCKEE, Ky., Sept. 18, (Reuters): A 15-year-old schoolboy armed with a shotgun and two pistols took 11 classmates hostage in a high school today, but later released eight of them, including two in exchange for lunch, police said.

Four hours after the siege began, the boy was still holding three hostages.

Police said two shots were fired as the hostage-taking incident began at the Jackson county high school in McKee in the mountains of southern Kentucky, but there had been no injuries.

State police evacuated 500 students from the school and sealed off the grounds, police said.

A town official, Conley Tyra, told Reuters that the boy let two of his hostages go in exchange for lunch.

"He said he would let them go if they sent something in for him to eat, which was done."

School officials, who were communicating with the youth through the classroom's intercom system, said he had asked for a police radio and a telephone.

Lendl wins match

GREENWICH, Conn., Sept. 18, (Reuters): Ivan Lendl, the world's top-ranked men's tennis player, won at low tide weekend as he married his longtime girlfriend, Samantha Frankel.

The two were married on Friday in a private ceremony at Lendl's Greenwich, Connecticut home outside New York.

Frankel, 21, and the 29-year-old Lendl have been going together for five years.

DAY BY DAY

FOR quite some time now, many people have been incessantly talking about a cabinet reshuffle. We pray to ALLAH so that this materialises, shortly.

People look forward to seeing new blood infused in the cabinet to bring about positive contributory elements.

Zahed Matar

Calcutta stalks a killer 'Ripper' walks

CALCUTTA, Sept. 18, (Reuters): As if the teeming homeless didn't have enough to cope with on the streets of Calcutta, now they are being stalked by the "stoneman," a serial killer who has so far murdered seven of them.

"We are almost at our wit's end," said deputy police commissioner Rachpal Singh in an interview.

"At first we thought all this must be a madman's doing. But now we are beginning to believe there is method to the madness, method so ruthlessly precise that we are absolutely baffled."

The stoneman struck for the first time two months ago. The murder weapon, a bloody stone, was found by the body — hence the nickname.

For the estimated 60,000-70,000 street people of Calcutta, he is the equivalent of London's Jack the Ripper or New York's son of Sam.

Mohan Sau, 40, who ekes out a street living selling illicit liquor, said he woke up one morning and went for a cup of tea. Ten minutes later he returned to find his wife Aleya, 30, lying in a pool of blood. She was the stoneman's first victim.

A police forensic expert said she had been hit, like the subsequent victims, at an exact point on the left side of the skull.

"The victims were hit only once, except in one case where it is clear the victim had a convulsion and was hit twice," said the expert, who declined to be identified.

"Probably that was the only time the expert killer made a slight error."

Apart from the first victim, all the others were male, and it took some time for the police to deduce the killings were linked by the same method.

"One reason the police failed to make any early progress was that they did not attach any importance to it," charged social worker Manohar Sen.

"The victims were all pavement dwellers... insignificant people. Who bothers about them?"

When police did realise a serial killer was in action, as Singh admitted, they assumed a hunch was at work.

At one stage they detained 150 mentally deranged street dwellers, at least one of whom admitted responsibility repeatedly.

"All reports now indicate that the murders were made by a highly intelligent psychopath, almost a modern-day Jack-the-Ripper and not by a raving lunatic as initially believed," Singh said.



Castaways

Two elderly women who had to leave their homes in the low lying area near San Juan wait for rooms at the evacuation centre.

Hurricane Hugo bore down on Puerto Rico on Monday after cutting a path of destruction across the Caribbean, where nine people were reported dead and thousands homeless.

(Full Report Page 2)

Mother Teresa 'very weak'

CALCUTTA, Sept. 18, (AP): Mother Teresa suffered chest pains again today and doctors treating her said a temporary pacemaker had not improved her heart condition.

However, a medical bulletin issued late today by the Woodlands Nursing Home said she was better and resting.

Doctors said a persistent fever afflicting the 79-year-old Roman Catholic nun seemed under control, but the cause of the fever was unspecified despite numerous diagnostic tests.

"Everything seems to be heading in the right direction, but her anginal pain is causing anxiety," said Dr George Lombardi, a specialist in infectious diseases from Cornell University, New York.

(See also Page 2)

Maldives commutes death sentence for coup plotters to life

NEW DELHI, Sept. 18, (AP): Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom has commuted the death sentences of 12 Sri Lankans and four Maldivians to life imprisonment for taking part in last year's abortive coup, a government statement said today.

The condemned men had appealed to Gayoom for clemency, the statement said.

Another 36 Sri Lankans and three Maldivians were convicted in the plot and sentenced to prison terms ranging from nine to 38 years by the high court in Male, the Maldives capital.

The Nov 3, 1988 coup attempt was crushed by Indian paratroopers who landed in Maldives in response to a call for help from Gayoom. At least 17 people, mostly local residents, were killed in the fighting.

The country had never executed people for political crimes in its history and that he (Gayoom) did not want this generation to be the first to shed blood on our soil as punishment for political crime," said the statement, which was relayed to New Delhi from the Maldivian Department of Information and Broadcasting.

The Maldivian government has said the convicted Sri Lankans were mercenaries who belong to the People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam, one of the several guerrilla groups that had participated in the Tamil separatist war against Sri Lanka's Sinhalese majority.

60 injured as violence racks Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Sept. 18, (UPI): Police and protesters opened fire and clashed today during a state-wide strike in much of northern Jammu and Kashmir state, leaving at least 60 people injured, officials said.

Police said a group of masked gunmen launched bomb and grenade attacks on a police party at the Nawakadal area of state capital of Srinagar, 405 miles (650 km) north of New Delhi, injuring 10 policemen.

A little later in the outskirts of the capital, two police officials and a woman were injured when masked gunmen opened fire, police said, adding that the two attacks were apparently carried out by the same gunmen.

The strike was called by Kashmir Liberation Front, a militant Muslim group fighting for the state's secession from India, to commemorate the first anniversary of the death of Aijaz Dar, a radical killed during an abortive attempt to assassinate a senior police official.

The strike in Kashmir valley, where Muslims are in overwhelming majority, disrupted offices and banks, shops and businesses closed, and streets were deserted.

INTERNATIONAL



Oil slick after collision

A massive clean-up operation and favourable winds appeared to have prevented a 20-mile oil slick from polluting Britain's east coast after a collision between two tankers, Coast Guard officials said late yesterday.

The main slick was now 20 miles long and seven miles wide and starting to drift south, a Humber Coast Guard spokesman said. Six aircraft were used throughout the day to disperse the oil by spraying the slick with detergent. Much of the oil had now broken up into patches, he added.

Arson fire kills five in Sydney

Is that fun?

SYDNEY, Sept 18, (AP): A suspected arson fire raged through a Sydney hostel popular with overseas tourists, killing at least five people and injuring 17 others early yesterday, officials said.

The blaze began shortly before 5 am (1900 GMT Saturday) and gutted the down under hotel in Kings Cross, a district famous for its strip shows, massage parlours and late night bars.

It was not known how many people were in the building at the time but at least 60 people escaped the burning structure, some by jumping out of windows.

The bodies of four men and one woman were recovered from two second-storey bedrooms.

The 17 injured were taken to St Vincent's and Royal Prince Alfred hospitals suffering from various injuries including burns, cuts and smoke inhalation. Two of the injured were reported in critical condition.

The fire might have been deliberately set 'for fun', police said today.

Arson investigators were trying to establish the identity of a man seen sitting alone in the lobby of the down under backpackers' hostel minutes before the fire erupted.

"It is possible someone dropped a cigarette or something may have been dropped in the lounge," a police spokesman said. "But we can't discount some drunk has come back to the hostel and lit it up for fun."

Police identified three of the victims as David Leo Hillman, 25, of Canada, Jacinda Maree Hill, 25, from New Zealand, and Allan Nielsen, 27, of Denmark.

Nielsen and Hill were returning to Hill's Auckland home to be married, officials said.

A Fire Brigade spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said arson was suspected.



Nielsen

ected. "Put it this way. We don't believe it started naturally," the spokesman told the Australian Associated Press without giving further details.

Firefighters said the fire began in the ground level lobby and spread through two floors above. Most of the occupants escaped through a rear exit or clambered out of windows to firemen who rescued them.

"They were jumping out the windows and then the Fire Brigade got the ladders up there and started helping them out," said an unidentified witness on radio.

Danish tourist Jan Martens told a radio interviewer he escaped only in his underwear, climbing out of a window.

"I was in my room on the second floor and I was sleeping, and my mate got me up... and I just got out, you know. That's all I had, no key, no clothes, nothing," he said.

Bingo Day 4

63 33 64 12

Population in EEC

W.Germany tops

PARIS, Sept 18, (Kuna): Population in the 12-member European Economic Community (EEC) was estimated at 323,753,000 on Jan 1, 1987, compared with 322,776,000 a year before, according to figures just released by the National Institute of Demographic Studies (Ined) in its latest monthly "Population and Societies."

France had the third largest population with 55.6 million, preceded by Italy with 57.3 million and West Germany ranking first with 61.1 million.

With no figure available for

Spain for 1987, the population there was estimated at 58.8 million in 1986.

The Netherlands came next with 14.6 million, followed by Portugal with 10.2 million, Greece 9.9 million, Belgium 9.8 million, Denmark 5.1 million, Ireland 3.5 million and Luxembourg 0.37 million.

The younger generation made of those aged less than 19 represented 27.1 per cent of the EEC's population in 1986, while the older one more than 60 represented 19.1 per cent.

Chemical confab to discuss banning

WASHINGTON, Sept 18, (Agencies): A chemical arms conference in Australia will not — to the dismay of the US — deal with current "proliferation" of the arms but only with the distant issue of a global treaty banning them, US officials said.

One official, declining to be identified, told the New York Times, "It's disappointing. What we really had in mind was a conference dealing with the trade in chemical-weapon precursors."

Precursors are the substances used in making chemical weapons, and worry the administration because many have non-military uses and their movements thus are hard to track.

The US has persuaded India to cancel one sale of precursors to Iran earlier this year.

But India has sold hundreds of tons of poison gas-producing chemicals to Mideast states in the past two years, administration officials claim.

The agenda for the chemicals meeting was changed by the Australians, Western sources said, after it became clear many Third World representatives would not attend if the focus was present-day trade.

Officials from the Mideast and other regions accuse the US and the West of hypocrisy over the issue. They argue that if the developed nations seek drastic reductions in the production and trade in precursors they should lead the way.

The US, for example, has lately been modernising its own chemical-arms factories and insists on the right to do so.

At the same time, both the US and the Third World officials said they believe the Australian conference will be useful as a forum for identifying and addressing mutual concerns over chemical weaponry.

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke today urged speed in banning chemical weapons, saying they were a "grotesque use of science."

He was addressing officials and chemical company executives from 67 countries on the eve of the four-day conference.

"The chemical industry has nothing to fear, and much to gain, from the successful conclusion of a chemical weapons convention," Hawke said.

"(The conference) represents an effort to give new impetus in this long saga."

Australia hopes the conference will hasten a decision at multilateral disarmament talks which have been taking place in Geneva for the past 19 years.

Hurricane Hugo hits Puerto Rico

British naval ships head for St Kitts

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Sept 18, (AP): Hurricane Hugo, the region's most severe storm in a decade, pounded Puerto Rico today after slashing a swath of death and destruction through the northern Caribbean.

At least nine people have died in storm-related deaths and thousands are homeless.

The National Weather Service said Hugo's winds were at 130 miles per hour (210 kilometres per hour) when it hit the eastern tip of Puerto Rico this morning. Forecasters expected up to 15 inches (38 centimetres) of rain and flooding and mudslides all over the island.

"We're getting ravaged," said Ham radio operator Fernando Garcia in San Juan. "We're getting all kinds of winds, rain — very, very, very hard."

The wind is howling outside very, very fast... and it looks worse, and it should be getting worse before it gets better," Garcia said. On Sunday, Hugo ploughed west-northwest through the eastern Caribbean, slamming into the US Virgin Islands with 100-mile-per-hour (160-kilometre-per-hour) winds and rains that caused heavy flooding.

Five people were reported killed, 80 injured and more than 10,000 homeless on the French island of Guadeloupe, relief officials said.

Corrugated steel roofs were torn off, power lines ripped free and crops were destroyed. The airport's control tower was knocked out of commission, permitting only visual landings by relief planes.

Two people were killed in Atingua and one in Montserrat, according to Beacon radio in Anguilla. Ham radio operators reported at least five deaths in Montserrat, but there was no official confirmation.

Nearly all of Montserrat's 12,000 residents were homeless and schools, hospitals and the police department all suffered serious damage, said ham radio operator Stuart Haines in New York City.

Police said a man was electrocuted in Puerto Rico when he touched a power line while removing a TV antenna from his roof in preparing for the storm.

Off St. Thomas, charter boat captain O.B. O'Brian told the US Cable News network by ship-to-shore telephone this morning: "Looking down the lagoon, we see a lot of sailboats intertwined and a lot of sails ripped and a lot of sails down. It looked pretty bad. ... There was a lot of wind ... 170-mile-an-hour (275-kilometre-per-hour) gusts."

Most of the Virgin Islands' 106,000 residents live on St. Thomas. On St. Croix, a Ham radio operator said the winds tore off the roofs from up to 75 percent of the homes.

Officials said stores in the St. Croix town of Christiansted were heavily damaged, and there were reports of looting. National Guard adjutant Gen. Robert Moorehead said 1,000 people were evacuated to rescue shelters in St. Croix.

The British Defence Ministry today said it had dispatched two naval ships to the island of St. Kitts in answer to a United Nations request for help.

At 1300 GMT, Hugo's centre was near latitude 18.4 degrees north and longitude 65.6 west on the eastern tip of Puerto Rico, said the US National Hurricane Centre.

Storm watches were in effect for parts of the Dominican Republic, and a hurricane warning was issued for the southern Bahamas, including the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Hugo was moving at 10 miles (16 kilometres) per hour through Puerto Rico, a US Commonwealth with 3.3 million people.

UN assembly session ends

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 18, (Reuters): The UN General Assembly formally ended its 43rd session today with the outgoing president saying the end of the cold war had made it possible for the world body to fulfil its role as peacemaker.

But Dante Caputo also said that despite warmer superpower relations the world's movement towards democracy would be stormy if poverty were not alleviated.

"We must be aware there can be no tranquil first-class passenger if in third class there is a bomb... we are all travelling together," he said.

Caputo, who is a former foreign minister of Argentina, said Latin America had never before seen so many democratic systems of government but in the past 15 years "we've hardly ever been as poor as we are today."

times) of rain and flooding and mudslides all over the island.

"We're getting ravaged," said Ham radio operator Fernando Garcia in San Juan. "We're getting all kinds of winds, rain — very, very, very hard."

The wind is howling outside very, very fast... and it looks worse, and it should be getting worse before it gets better," Garcia said.

On Sunday, Hugo ploughed west-northwest through the eastern Caribbean, slamming into the US Virgin Islands with 100-mile-per-hour (160-kilometre-per-hour) winds and rains that caused heavy flooding.

Five people were reported killed, 80 injured and more than 10,000 homeless on the French island of Guadeloupe, relief officials said.

Corrugated steel roofs were torn off, power lines ripped free and crops were destroyed. The airport's control tower was knocked out of commission, permitting only visual landings by relief planes.

Two people were killed in Atingua and one in Montserrat, according to Beacon radio in Anguilla. Ham radio operators reported at least five deaths in Montserrat, but there was no official confirmation.

Nearly all of Montserrat's 12,000 residents were homeless and schools, hospitals and the police department all suffered serious damage, said ham radio operator Stuart Haines in New York City.

Police said a man was electrocuted in Puerto Rico when he touched a power line while removing a TV antenna from his roof in preparing for the storm.

Off St. Thomas, charter boat captain O.B. O'Brian told the US Cable News network by ship-to-shore telephone this morning: "Looking down the lagoon, we see a lot of sailboats intertwined and a lot of sails ripped and a lot of sails down. It looked pretty bad. ... There was a lot of wind ... 170-mile-an-hour (275-kilometre-per-hour) gusts."

Most of the Virgin Islands' 106,000 residents live on St. Thomas. On St. Croix, a Ham radio operator said the winds tore off the roofs from up to 75 percent of the homes.

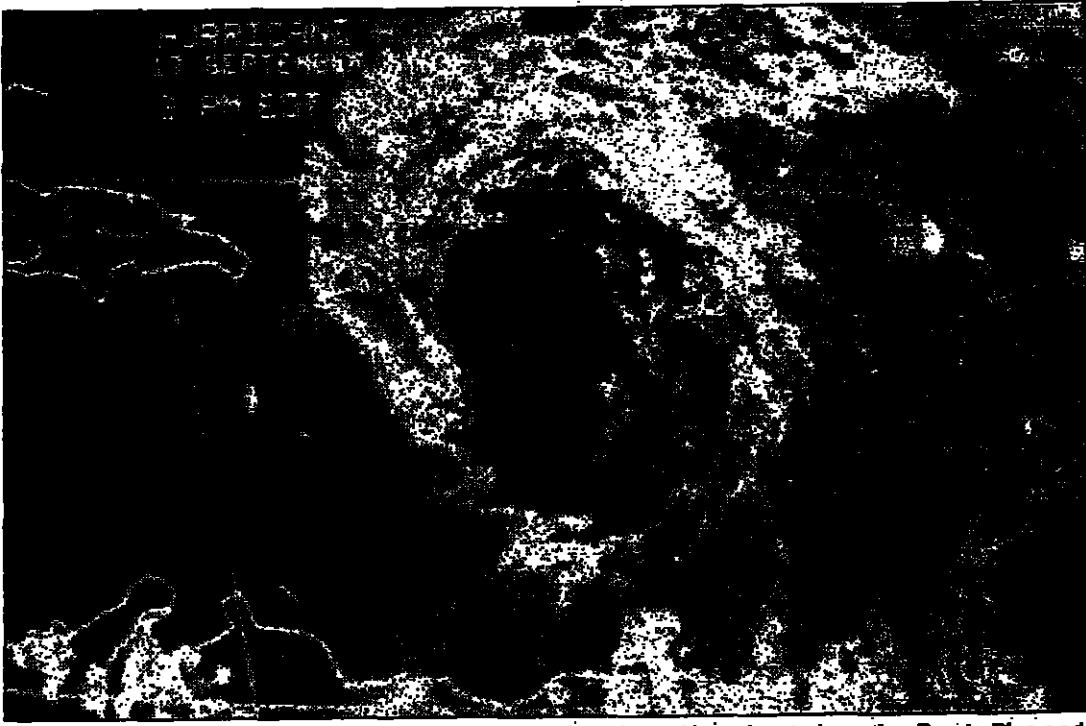
Officials said stores in the St. Croix town of Christiansted were heavily damaged, and there were reports of looting. National Guard adjutant Gen. Robert Moorehead said 1,000 people were evacuated to rescue shelters in St. Croix.

The British Defence Ministry today said it had dispatched two naval ships to the island of St. Kitts in answer to a United Nations request for help.

At 1300 GMT, Hugo's centre was near latitude 18.4 degrees north and longitude 65.6 west on the eastern tip of Puerto Rico, said the US National Hurricane Centre.

Storm watches were in effect for parts of the Dominican Republic, and a hurricane warning was issued for the southern Bahamas, including the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Hugo was moving at 10 miles (16 kilometres) per hour through Puerto Rico, a US Commonwealth with 3.3 million people.



This computer enhanced satellite map shows the eye of hurricane Hugo (centre) near Puerto Rico, and tropical depression 12 miles behind. (Reuters wirephoto)

Highly saline water may trigger an El Nino

LONDON, Sept 18, (Reuters): Global weather patterns may be strongly influenced by changes in the salt content of the oceans, a British scientist said today.

Physicist David Webb, who has just ended a three-year global voyage studying sea patterns, said rushes of highly saline water across the Pacific may help trigger "El Ninos" — sudden changes in weather patterns caused by the mysterious appearance of warm water currents off Peru.

An El Nino — Spanish for "infant" — can weaken vital monsoon rains in India; cause droughts in countries as far apart as China and Australia; unleash floods in Central America and devastate fish stocks off South America.

"In the past, scientists did not believe salinity to be a major factor and concentrated more on the temperature of water," Webb told a news conference at the end of the voyage of the RRS Charles Darwin research ship.

"Our research shows salinity is very important in determining currents," he said. Scientists on the Charles Darwin carried out months of

research 400 miles (600 km) north of New Guinea in the western Pacific (86° Fahrenheit), the warmest sea in the world.

They believe movement of more saline water from the south Pacific to the western Pacific, where the El Nino is believed to originate every three or four years, sets up strong currents and eddies (whirlpools).

These, in turn, cause major weather changes, such as droughts and floods, but political analysts said that would change unless the scientists' research was taken seriously.

The sea warmed the air above, forming storm clouds, which might then help trigger an El Nino. Members of the expedition, organised by Britain's government-backed natural environment research council and involving scientists from a dozen countries, believe an understanding of the El Nino effect could help in predicting weather patterns.

Benazir supports: Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto supported the Turkish stand on Cyprus issue when Foreign Minister of Cyprus George Lavocou called on her here today.

She told him that Pakistan stood for bi-zonal and bi-communal solution of the Cyprus issue.

Earlier in the day Lavocou called on President Ghulam Ishaq.

George Lavocou today completed his two-day Pakistan tour, first by a Greek Cypriot minister to Pakistan. Yesterday he held talks with Pakistan Foreign Minister Shahabuddin Yaqub Khan on matters of mutual interest, especially the regional situation, particularly the situation in Afghanistan. (Kuna)

Lawyer re-arrested: A leading human rights lawyer was released on bail today after being charged with attempting to overthrow the military government but was immediately re-arrested.

The military tribunal hearing the case granted Gani Fawehinmi bail set at 10,000 naira (\$1,428) but police immediately re-arrested him under a special decree that allows detention without charge for six months.

More than 100 lawyers have volunteered to help in Fawehinmi's defence and dozens of people appeared outside the court with placards calling for his release. (AP)

Police casualties: About 6,900 policemen have been injured so far this year in violent political and labour-related protest, police said today.

In a report to the national assembly, the national police headquarters said seven police officers were killed and 6,890 others injured in dealing with 4,946 violent protest involving students and workers so far this year.

During the same period, police said 114 vehicles were destroyed or burned, and 196 police stations and other government facilities were attacked.

Police gave no figures on civilian casualties. (AP)

Tree-planting to reduce pollution: President George Bush, beginning a two-day tour of the American west, called today for the planting of more trees in the United States to help reduce air pollution.

"It's not enough to stop dirtying the air. We've got to clean it up."

Mandela could be freed in weeks

LONDON, Sept 18, (Agencies): Black leader Nelson Mandela could be freed within weeks, a minister in the new South African cabinet said in a British radio interview today.

But Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Anglican archbishop of Cape Town and a leading anti-apartheid campaigner, said it would be "disastrous" to release Mandela without lifting state of emergency regulations which restrict black political activity.

Minister for Constitutional Development Gerrit Viljoen said the release of Mandela is a matter very high on the agenda of the government.

Asked if Mandela's release could be within weeks, Viljoen said, "I think it could."

Speculation that Mandela will soon be freed grew after the re-election victory this month of the white-only National Party under a new leader, F.W. de Klerk, who had promised reform. The country's black African majority does not have the vote.

Mandela, 71, leader of the main black guerrilla movement, the African National Congress, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 on convictions of plotting sabotage.

Viljoen did not repeat the key condition laid down by the previous South African president, F.W. Botha, that Mandela renounce violence. But Viljoen added that "Mr Mandela has expressed himself in terms which clearly indicate his preference for a peacefully negotiated solution."

Tutu, also speaking in a telephone interview, said De Klerk's government first would need to show good faith by lifting the state of emergency and legalising banned black movements.

He added that if Mandela were released he would have to be completely free and not, for example, restricted to Soweto, the big black township outside Johannesburg.

Meanwhile President de Klerk has won praise for his tough but political analysis said that would change unless the government initiates specific reforms.

In a major policy shift, De Klerk said last Tuesday that police would not disperse peaceful demonstrations, which previously have been banned or forcibly dispersed.

A day later, 20,000 activists staged the country's largest-ever legal demonstration in Cape Town. It was followed on Friday by similar protests in Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The Sunday Star of Johannesburg said the government's move was a "dramatic" step towards a new constitution with black leaders.

Namibia: South West Africa police are holding a Belfast-born Irishman in connection with the assassination of a senior white official of the South West African Peoples Organisation, police sources confirmed today.

Angola: Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi stayed away from a peace summit in Zaire today intended to revive the collapsed ceasefire in Angola's 15-year civil war.

Mozambique: Mozambique's parliament today voted unanimously to abolish price fixing, which had drawn criticism from international human rights bodies.

Peshawar explosion

PESHAWAR, Sept 18, (AP): A bomb ripped through a bus letting off passengers near a crowded intersection today, injuring five people, two of them seriously, police officials said.

No one has claimed responsibility for the explosion.

In the past police have blamed scores of explosions in this border city on agents of neighbouring Afghanistan's communist government.

More than three million Afghan war refugees live in camps dotting Pakistan's Frontier province. They fled to Pakistan during more than 11 years of brutal civil war.

Death without Teresa – death without soul

CALCUTTA, Sept 18, (AP): Mother Teresa's fragile health has raised questions about who can fill the daunting role of leading the Missionaries of Charity, but her colleagues say they are not worried.

"God will take care of tomorrow," one nun said.

With her heart weakened by a Sept 8 heart attack, Mother Teresa has been fighting recurring chest pains, fever and an undisclosed infection.

The illness striking the 79-year-old Roman Catholic nun has focused attention on who will succeed her as leader of the Missionaries of Charity, the order she established 39 years ago to care for the destitute and the dying in the slums of India's largest city.

"God will find another person, more humble, more devoted, more obedient to him, and the society will go on," Mother Teresa said recently when asked about her successor.

Many of the nuns believe it's improper to talk now about succession, saying the order will run as smoothly as ever. But privately, two names frequently surface as possible candidates — Sister Agnes and Sister Priscilla. Both are Indians in their mid-50s.

Sister Agnes, who acts as the order's chief spokeswoman, joined Mother Teresa in 1949 when she was a 19-year-old college girl known as Subhashini Das. She now stays at Mother Teresa's bedside at the Woodlands Nursing Home where the

world-renowned nun was admitted on Sept 5 with high fever and irregular heartbeat.

Sister Priscilla is Mother Teresa's secretary and supervises the charity's work.

"We live for the day and God will take care of tomorrow. All is in His hands," she said. "Let us hope and pray she returns from the hospital fully recovered. It is the responsibility of God to look after us."

Most likely, a successor would be chosen from a seven-member council that is currently headed by Mother Teresa and includes both sisters Agnes and Priscilla.

Sister Agnes said: "There will be an election. There is going to be no problem.

God is with us. God will guide us to elect the right person."

Afterward, all 3,000 nuns working in Missionaries of Charity centres in 187 countries would vote in an election known as a chapter.

Until that time, life will continue as it always has at "Mother's house," the headquarters of the Missionaries of Charity, and six centres for the poor and dying in Calcutta.

"We work so closely that everything runs smoothly. There is no disruption in work (even) when mother goes abroad," Sister Agnes said.

Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity in October 1950 with the

help of 12 nuns, including Sister Agnes, in an abandoned hostel donated by Calcutta. Through the years Mother Teresa has been repeatedly recognised as her order gained acclaim for its work in the city of 12 million, where thousands are homeless and die on the streets.

The Missionaries of Charity carved out a special niche through the strength and charisma of its leader.

Through diligence, indomitable spirit and political savvy, Mother Teresa built the religious order into an international organisation.

After winning the 1979 Nobel peace prize, Mother Teresa worked and travelled incessantly, keeping a rigorous schedule despite her heart problems.

In May 1983, she suffered a heart attack during a visit with Pope John Paul II in Rome. She only agreed to rest and recuperation when the Pope told her: "Mother, obey the doctor."

While other religious societies have been weakened in recent years by the loss of members, only about 25 of Mother Teresa's missionaries have dropped out of the society's life of unrelenting hardship and devotion to the poorest of the poor.

Nuns now offer special prayers individually or in groups through the day for Mother Teresa's recovery.

"It's like a family. If your mother dies, there is always some to take care of you. This is the God's way," said a 30-year-old nun emerging from prayer.

هكذا من الجهل

مكة المكرمة

Beauty with a cause



Candice Bergen holds her shoes and the Emmy she won. (Reuters wirephoto)

NBC's series win top honours

PASADENA, California, Sept 18, (UPI) NBC television took top honours last night at the 41st annual Emmy awards, winning the best comedy and drama series statuettes for 'Cheers' and 'LA Law'.

'LA Law', voted top drama in 1987 and nominated for 17 awards this year, bested 'Beauty And The Beast', 'China Beach', 'Wiseguy' and last year's winner, 'Thirtysomething'.

The series about a Los Angeles law firm also picked up a best supporting actor honour for Larry Drake.

'Cheers', the top comedy of 1987 and 1988, beat out network mate 'The Golden Girls', ABC's 'The Wonder Years' and CBS's 'Designing Women'. Series regulars Woody Harrison and Rhea Perlman were honoured as best supporting actor and actress.

Candice Bergen, who plays Murphy Brown, a wise-cracking television reporter, received the top comedy actress nod over Blair Brown of 'Days Of Molly Dodd' and the trio of 'Golden Girls' Betty White, Rue McClanahan and last year's Emmy-winner Beatrice Arthur.

'Murphy Brown', the most-honoured new series with 11 nominations, won two of CBS's 21 non-televised awards on Saturday and picked up a fourth award Sunday for writing.

Also picking up four awards each were ABC's 'Thirtysomething' and Fox's 'The Tracey Ullman Show'.

CBS's 'Lonesome Dove', the mini-series based on Larry McMurtry's Pulitzer prize-winning novel about an aging cowboy, picked up best director honours for Simon Wincer and six craft awards on Saturday night, including costumes, makeup, music and sound, for a weekend high of seven Emmys.

But in one of Emmy's biggest surprises this year, ABC's epic World War II drama 'War And Remembrance' was named best mini-series over 'Lonesome Dove', which had gone into the awards as the top-nominated programme with 18.

'Empty Nest' star Richard Mulligan was named top actor in a comedy, besting Ted Danson of 'Cheers', last year's winner Michael J. Fox of 'Family Ties', 'Roseanne's' John Goodman and child actor Fred Savage of 'The Wonder Years'.

Carroll O'Connor was named best actor in a drama for 'In The Heat Of The Night', becoming one of the few to earn Emmy's for both drama and comedy work. He won four comedy awards in the 1970s for 'All In The Family'. O'Connor received the nod over Michael Tucker of 'LA Law', Ron Perlman of 'Beauty And The Beast', Edward Woodward of 'The Equalizer' and Ken Wahl of 'Wiseguy'.

Dana Delany, who plays an army nurse in ABC's 'China Beach', was named best actress in a drama over 'LA Law' co-stars Susan Dey and Jill Eikenberry, 'Beauty And The Beast's' Linda Hamilton, and 'Murder She Wrote's' Angela Lansbury. ABC's 'The Wonder Years', 1988's top comedy and the recipient of 14 nominations this year, picked up only one award for best director of a comedy series, Peter Baldwin.

Best actor in a mini-series or special went to James Woods, who portrayed the wonder of alcoholics anonymous in ABC's 'My Name Is Bill W'. Woods was a surprise winner over Robert Duvall, the decade-favourite for 'Lonesome Dove' and John Gielgud, nominated for ABC's 'War And Remembrance'.

Holly Hunter, who played Ellen Russell in NBC's abortion rights drama 'Roe vs. Wade', earned best actress in a mini-series or special.

Colleen Dewhurst earned a rare double win with awards for best supporting actress in a mini-series for NBC's 'Those She Left Behind' and guest actress in a comedy series, announced at the non-televised awards.

'Thirtysomething', last year's top drama series and nominated for 13 awards this year, won Emmys for best supporting actress in a drama — Melanie Lynskey — writing, costume and single-camera editing.

Derek Jacobi was named outstanding supporting actor in a mini-series for 'The Tenth Man', a 'Hallmark Hall Of Fame' special.

The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences took time out to honour the contributions of comedian Lucille Ball, who was presented with the prestigious Governor's award posthumously by Bob Hope.

Soviet toddler hale after surgery

NEW YORK, Sept 18, (UPI) A young Soviet boy who last month was whisked to the United States for emergency surgery to remove an orange-size brain tumour is in excellent health as he gets set for release, a hospital spokesman said yesterday.

Kirill Podorozhansky, a 20-month old Muscovite hailed by American doctors as a 'tough little fighter', is scheduled to be released at 11 am (1900 GMT) today from the Bronx's Montefiore Medical Centre, where he has been since undergoing delicate neurosurgery on Aug 17th.

The blond-haired child was brought to

New York because Soviet doctors lacked the training and facilities to remove the extraordinary large tumour, which endangered his life by causing his head to swell and compressing his brain so much that his body remains the size of a 6-month-old infant.

About 85 per cent of the orange-sized growth was removed by a team of five doctors, led by Montefiore paediatric neurosurgery chairman Dr James Goodrich, during a 10-hour surgery on Aug 17. The operation left behind a large head cavity.

After the surgery, Goodrich said the child had borne up "... remarkably well under such

a long operation." During the past four weeks, the remainder of the tumour has shrunk further and his head is approaching normal size. In addition, the child has put on weight and his lower body has grown considerably, hospital spokesman Fred Yaeger said.

The boy also has started to eat solid foods, after many months of having to be fed intravenously, Yaeger said.

Doctors are optimistic that the chemotherapy treatments will dissolve the remnants of the tumour, now only 5 per cent of its original size, Yaeger said.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: Actress Jamie Lee Curtis says motherhood, a happy marriage and a satisfying career have given her "the life I've always wanted."

But getting there was not easy, she says in Redbook magazine's October issue. Among the difficulties, she recalled, was having famous parents.

When she was in seventh grade, her father was arrested for marijuana possession and her schoolmates taunted her with the words "You're father's Tony Curtis and your mother's Janet Leigh, your father just got busted but your mother still is free."

Ms Curtis' career got off to a rocky start with some ill-fated television shows. After playing the screaming baby sister in two "Halloween" movies, she starred in a big-budget movie with John Travolta, "Perfect," that bombed. After starring in a few smaller films, Ms Curtis came into her own as a comedian in "A Fish Called Wanda." Ms Curtis, 51, is married to actor Christopher Guest, with whom she has an adopted daughter. "I have a family I love and the kind of work I like to do," she said. "Everybody I tell myself I did it" (AP).



Jam session

McVie Jagger and Rolling Stones guitarist Ron Wood, jam at Basch Stadium in St Louis on Sept 17 on the seventh stop of their 1989 concert tour. (Reuters wirephoto)

ST PAUL, Minnesota: A man banned from a bowling tournament because his hair was too long has been awarded \$3,000 in damages.

The St Paul Human Rights Commission voted unanimously Wednesday night to uphold Joe Big Bear's discrimination complaint against the Amateur Bowler's Tour, a national organisation that conducts local bowling tournaments.

Big Bear, 35, wanted to bowl in a tournament at St Paul's Midway Bowl in November.

The commission ordered the organisation to pay him \$2,000 in damages, plus \$1,500 in attorney's fees and costs of the investigation. In addition, it must change its rules and remove the discriminatory language. (AP)

Jam session

McVie Jagger and Rolling Stones guitarist Ron Wood, jam at Basch Stadium in St Louis on Sept 17 on the seventh stop of their 1989 concert tour. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEW YORK: Jobeth Williams says she was anguished about her own infertility, while acting the role of surrogate mother Mary Beth Whitehead for the television mini-series, "Baby M."

"Here I was playing a real birth mother, and my acting had to reflect the pleasure and joy of motherhood," Williams said in an interview with Parade magazine. "But few people knew that my emotions were with the adoptive parents, who desperately wanted a baby and had struggled with infertility for years, as I have," she

said. "While friends and family were having babies, I was dying inside."

Williams saw eight doctors in eight years, all of whom purportedly treated infertility. "They said to relax, to drink wine, to loosen up, to wait... I lost a night and became depressed."

Finally, feeling "desperately alone," she decided to talk openly about her problem. To her surprise, she found others who shared it, and learned about specialists and technological advances. (AP)

HATFIELD, Massachusetts: The hourly tolling of a church bell has been a melodious tradition in this little farming community, but for a couple that moved next door, it is more like an all-night alarm clock.

Richard and Pamela Carnall, who bought their house next door to the century-old clock last year, sued the town after the board of selectmen declined to ring the clock between 9 pm and 7 am.

The couple, who say the chiming ruins their sleep, lost their bid for a preliminary injunction to silence the clock in April. But Judge George C. Keady Jr has said he will hear arguments on the issue Oct 5.

Both sides already have made their case loud and clear. Richard Carnall says he has given up trying to get to sleep before midnight, when the bell tolls 17 times.

And Dr Donald B. Rogers, who has prescribed sleeping pills for Pamela Carnall, maintained in a letter to the judge that the bell is "affecting Mrs Carnall's work and well-being."

The Carnalls contend they have been unable to adjust to the banging of the 1,800-pound (454-kilogram) bell on the First Congregational Church, 56 feet (15 metres) from their home. (AP)

WELLINGTON, New Zealand: Plans to let people who have changed sex exchange embarrassing details of their past, the government said on Monday.

Justice Minister Bill Jeffries has prepared legislation allowing people with written proof of sex-change surgery to be given new birth certificates, his spokesman said on Monday.

The certificate will show the person's newly-acquired sex as the sex registered at birth and any new names will appear as if they were the names originally registered.

The bill, to be presented to Parliament shortly, is designed to prevent embarrassment and distress when people with a new sex show their birth certificates to employers or when applying for passports.



Actress Rhea Perlman of NBC's 'Cheers' waves on stage with her Emmy award. (Reuters wirephoto)



Larry Drake flashes a victory sign after winning his award. (Reuters wirephoto)

Oxford in dire straits

University launches fund-raising drive

NEW YORK, Sept 18, (UPI) Britain's Oxford University, suffering from cuts in public funding by the Thatcher government, launches its first fund raising drive outside the United Kingdom this week, hoping to raise money from its 9,000 alumni living in the United States.

The 800-year-old university's fundraising efforts, officially described as a "development campaign," kick off at the Hotel Plaza tomorrow with a dinner dance attended by Lord Jenkins, chancellor of Oxford, and prominent Oxford alumni.

Queen Mother Elizabeth is patron of the Oxford International Development programme and was one of the first to make a contribution toward the goal of \$400 million.

Oxford recently initiated the five-year drive for private funds in response to government cutbacks and escalating operating costs and already has raised \$112.2 million in Great Britain and from American Corporations and foundations. The university has had to impose an 11 per cent retrenchment on its activities through 1993.

Funds from Britain's universities funding council account for about 52 per cent of Oxford's total income.

These were cut in 1981 and again in 1986, and the second cut is currently being imposed on all British universities.

"The cuts already are beginning to take their toll," said Oxford Vice Chancellor Sir Patrick Neill, president of the campaign, on a visit to New York to attend the tomorrow's event.

"Posts stand empty as there is no money to pay salaries for new appointees. An alarmingly high proportion of academic posts have no supporting endowment."

Neill said the \$400 million endowment will also allow the university to fill vital posts, safeguard existing assets, libraries accessible to the international community of scholars and museums available to a wider audience, and make possible new initiatives and investments in new areas of growth.

"Above all, additional income will give Oxford a highly desirable measure of freedom and independence from central control and policies dictated from London," he said. "We are laying the foundation for the next 100 years at Oxford."

Rocket hits US embassy in Colombia

BOGOTA, Sept 18, (Agencies): A rocket was fired at the heavily-guarded US embassy in the Colombian capital Bogota last night, the first attack on a US target since the new war on drugs began a month ago with Washington's support.

An embassy spokesman said the rocket, propelled by a home-made launcher, hit a corner of the embassy building in central Bogota at 8.55 (0155 GMT Monday) but failed to explode, causing only 'minimal surface damage'.

He said there were no injuries and police were investigating the incident.

There was no immediate claim of res-

ponsibility for the rocket attack or six bomb explosions yesterday in Bogota and Cali, but suspicion fell on 'the extraditables', a group named for drug lords whose extradition has been requested by the United States.

The embassy spokesman declined further comment, but a marine guard at the embassy said he believed the rocket had been fired by attackers riding a motorcycle that sped off after the attack.

One police spokesman said a rocket launcher had been found in a park not far from the embassy. In Washington, a Defence Department spokeswoman said

part of the rocket had been recovered.

Washington ordered the dependents of US diplomats in Bogota to be evacuated earlier this month, citing a threat to all Americans because of the drug war.

Three bombs exploded in Bogota yesterday causing heavy damage. Two of the blasts in a commercial area damaged about 30 shops and knocked out windows in nearby homes. One person was injured.

Seven bombs have exploded outside banks in Bogota since Friday.

Three bombs exploded on a main avenue in the southwestern city of Cali earlier yesterday, killing a night watchman

and causing heavy damage.

The Canadian police said yesterday they have confirmed a link exists between five south Americans arrested with a cache of weapons and two Colombians facing trial for cocaine smuggling.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police inspector Al Hutchinson also said New Brunswick authorities are investigating whether the five should be charged with 'conspiring to effect a prison breach' — trying to free the Colombians.

He said other suspects still were being hunted by American and Canadian police.

Law limits US troops' role in drug war

WASHINGTON, Sept 18, (AP):

The idea of deploying US military forces on the nation's streets to battle drug dealers may be fodder for headlines and congressional demands, but Defence Department officials say there are strict legal limitations on such a thing.

"It just makes hair stand on end here," one senior official said. "Our primary mission is to prepare for any possible military threat — not to be a national police force... There's been a lot of very loose talk about expanding our role."

To counter assumptions that US troops could be used to patrol the streets and nab dealers, Pentagon officials point to a little-known law that prevents active duty troops from acting as law enforcement officers within the nation's borders.

It is known as the Posse Comitatus Act and was passed by Congress in 1878 as a post-civil war reaction to the use of federal troops in enforcing civil rights laws.

Because it deals with the enforcement of domestic law, the law does not affect US forces overseas.

David Super, a Defence Department spokesman, said using the nation's military might against drug king pins sounds enticing, but the ramifications have to be considered.

"It's really a rather profound idea when you think about it," he said. "Posse Comitatus (the 1878 law) is a reflection on our free society. There are a lot of countries where the military is used to police the streets, but they aren't much fun to live in."

Empowers

According to a common legal definition, the term "Posse Comitatus" means the power of the county and refers to the authority of the sheriff to call to his aid the male population above the age of 15 to keep the peace.

In effect, the law is interpreted to mean that military forces — the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines and their respective reserves — may be used in a support role for the battle against drugs, such as aiding in surveillance or interdiction efforts.

But they are prevented from adopting the role of law enforcement officials, tasks assigned to the local police or other officials, such as from the Drug Enforcement Agency.

For example, the military may provide boats to help intercept drug traffickers, or radar surveillance to spot a drug-transferring plane, but it is up to civilian law enforcement officials to seize evidence, make arrests, and testify in court.

The law does not affect a state's national guard when units are under the control of the state's governor, said Robert Dunlap, a spokesman for the National Guard Bureau.

The National Guard Bureau is the Defence Department agency that serves as a co-ordinating body for the guard forces in the various states.

Military to help stop inflow of drugs to US

G-7 task force on tracking drug money to meet

WASHINGTON, Sept 18, (Reuters): US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney announced today that the US military will play an expanded role in stopping the smuggling of narcotics into the United States as part of President George Bush's new war on drugs.

"The Department of Defence is an enthusiastic participant in this nation's drugs control effort," Cheney said at a news conference while declaring the Pentagon would put army, navy and air force units into the effort to stop drugs entering the United States on a larger scale than previously.

"We have considerable resources at our disposal" to aid the drug

fight, he said. It currently focuses especially on cocaine smuggled in from Colombia and other Latin American countries.

Proposals to involve the military in efforts to block drug smuggling have been fiercely opposed by some generals and admirals who argue it is not a proper use of military resources. But the growing US drug crisis has prompted Bush to involve the entire government in his big push against the multi-billion-dollar illegal narcotics industry.

Cheney said details of the expanded military effort would be worked out by service commanders but would generally include increased border surveillance, support for local police efforts, co-ordination of intelligence-gathering and possible training of foreign anti-narcotics forces.

Bush's war on drugs in the United States coincides with a major effort by the government of Colombia to crack down on the underworld cartels said to provide 80 per cent of the cocaine entering the United States.

Bush has proposed a \$7.86 billion programme to fight drugs in 1990, but some Democrats complain his plan is not enough.

Meanwhile in Paris a meeting to deprive the drug barons not only of their huge profits but also of their most powerful weapon will be pursued by officials from the world's seven richest countries and other states.

The meeting today will be the first by a group of seven (G-7) taskforce set up by leaders of the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada at their Paris summit in July.

Switzerland, once a no-questions-asked haven for piles of foreign cash, was due to attend the one-day session, underlining its commitment to reject drug-tainted bank deposits.

Six other European countries, including tax-haven Luxembourg, and Australia were also expected to take part.

At the Lyon headquarters of the 147-nation police-co-ordinating agency, Interpol, members of the unit trying to trace the proceeds from cocaine, heroin and other illegal drug sales say they cheered by G-7's awareness of the problem.

The United States, beginning talks with friends and allies on how to stop the laundering of huge, illicit drug profits, stressed today that it did not plan to bully foreign banks or clog up the financial system.

A senior US Treasury Department official, briefing reporters in Paris ahead of the first meeting of the drug-money task force, said there was no desire to pilory countries with strict banking secrecy laws, or to export US standards.

"It's difficult for me to anticipate that we would hang one country or another in the village square... stick someone out there in the pillory on public display," said the official, who declined to be named.

The task force could look at specific examples. But Washington was "not in the business of handing out grades," and did not wish "to constipate the international financial system" by setting burdensome rules for reporting suspicious cash transactions.



Left, right ... left?

A Roman Catholic church leader said yesterday he was pleased by unexpected progress in talks last week between leftist rebels and the rightist government aimed at ending the civil war in El Salvador.

"The dialogue gave results that surprised us all because we did not expect so much," said auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez, who observed the meetings Sept 13-15 in Mexico City.

Representatives from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and President Alfredo Cristiani's US-backed government agreed to meet again Oct 16-17 in San Jose, Costa Rica, to discuss conditions for a ceasefire.

They are to hold meetings at 30-day intervals after the next round. Hundreds of Salvadoran soldiers marched through the streets of the capital city in a military parade to celebrate the Salvadoran Independence Day.

(Reuters wirephoto)

Survival at risk

Calls for total war

BOGOTA, Sept 18, (AP): Colombia must endure the battering of bombs and bullets to end the war against drug traffickers, two presidential candidates said in speeches published today.

"Colombia faces a problem of survival," former foreign minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, who is seeking the Conservative Party presidential nomination, said in a speech published today. "Colombia will crush the violence or the violence will crush Colombia."

A federal senator, Ernesto Samper Pizano, said in his presidential campaign that the government must not surrender to the drug traffickers.

Reacting to a suggestion that perhaps the presidential election should be postponed, Samper said in a speech published today that "I do not agree with the absurd proposal... Colombia shouldn't hang out a sign that says 'country closed because of violence'," he said in a speech delivered yesterday.

Samper is seeking the presidential nomination of the ruling Liberal Party.

Embezzler royal vanishes

Con man of the century

NEW YORK, Sept 18, (AP): Leslie S. Victor adorned his office wall with a portrait of himself as a monarch, complete with a crown and royal finery.

But to authorities unravelling a corporate bankruptcy case, he is nothing but the king of the confidence game — a man who may have embezzled \$50 million or more from investors, banks and companies he controlled.

After following a paper trail through US bankruptcy court, investigators say they are dealing with an avid gambler and extravagant spender, a deceiver who practised law without a licence and falsely represented himself as a certified public accountant.

"He's a brilliant but degenerate individual," said Martin Pollner, the court-appointed trustee of the bankruptcy case.

He also is missing. He disappeared after spending the weekend of July 22 gambling in Atlantic City, New Jersey, with \$200,000 embezzled from a Connecticut bank a few days earlier, Pollner said.

He left behind evidence of an opulent lifestyle.

According to authorities, Victor spent \$500,000 for a party at Manhattan's Pierre Hotel for his 10th

wedding anniversary. He shopped for \$2,500 suits and \$500 ties at a store where appointments are required. In one day, he spent \$350,000 for jewelry at Cartier.

His \$5,000-a-month apartment, now sealed by court order, is filled with Japanese art and oriental rugs, Pollner said.

Victor was the vice-president and sole operating officer of the corporations in the bankruptcy case — seven companies under the umbrella of Maruki USA Co. Inc. and funded mainly by Japanese investors.

The companies, which went into bankruptcy proceedings last year, owned dozens of restaurants across the United States and in England as well as a restaurant equipment leasing firm. Until his disappearance, Victor reported to Pollner each day, guiding the companies through the bankruptcy process.

Pollner said the fraud by Victor was uncovered as accountants and private investigators tried to untangle Maruki's finances and find money to pay back its many creditors.



Hail Chamorro

The US-backed rebel force fighting Nicaragua's Sandinista government is disbanding but won't vanish all at once, despite a central American peace accord, the Nicaraguan defence minister said yesterday.

"It won't be sudden, like an earthquake. They'll just dry up," Humberto Ortega told reporters in Mexico City. He said only 500 rebels, known as Contras, turned themselves in under a repatriation programme call for in last month's peace accord signed in Tela, Honduras, by five central American presidents.

But he said the Contra force was crumbling through quiet desertion. "A lot of them don't trust us enough to turn themselves in. They're just putting their guns away and waiting to see what happens," said Ortega, who represented Nicaragua in Mexico's Independence Day celebrations.

Picture shows supporters of Nicaraguan presidential candidate Violeta de Chamorro cheer as she addresses on Sept 17 a rally held in her honour. (Reuters wirephoto)

Avril speaks

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, Sept 18, (AP): National leader Gen. Prosper Avril yesterday promised democratic reforms and economic progress in a speech marking the first anniversary of the coup that put him in power.

In the address broadcast on the state-run media from the national palace, Avril said, "our quest is to promote the human, economic, social, and political rights of Haitians."

He asked the international community to back efforts to return this impoverished Caribbean nation to civilian rule.

Stress kills crocodiles

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 18, (Reuters): Stress caused by noise has killed 92 crocodiles at a South Africa farm and the owner says 16 others are ill because of nearby road construction.

Blasting for a new highway near Tongaat in Natal province has upset the reptiles so badly that the farm has had to close, according to owner Peter Watson. His 552 surviving crocodiles have been sent to a wildlife rehabilitation centre in Durban to recover.

"I am now out of business. All my crocodiles have been sent away from the farm," Watson told reporters at the weekend.

Joint protection plan

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Sept 18, (AP): Yugoslavia and Italy yesterday announced a joint plan for environmental protection of the Adriatic.

The official Yugoslav news agency, Tanjug, said the "Adriatic initiative" signed Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti of Italy and Ante Markovic of Yugoslavia foresees co-operation in promoting tourism and the abolishment of seasonal restrictions on air and sea traffic.

Tanjug also said the initiative is open to all coastal states wishing to join in protecting the Adriatic.

Badly effected

LONDON, Sept 18, (Kuna): Parts of North Wales contaminated by radioactive fall-out from the Chernobyl disaster in the Soviet Union are still badly affected, according to a report here today.

The study, from the environmental group, Friends of the Earth, also said some areas contaminated by the disaster, in April 1986, were not subject to the necessary restrictions on movement of lamb.

The group used equipment supplied by the atomic energy authority at Harwell, England, to monitor more than 450 samples of grass.

Mitterrand honours

PARIS, Sept 18, (Reuters): President Francois Mitterrand and members of his government paid homage yesterday to victims of a wave of guerrilla attacks which killed 13 people and wounded 270 in Paris three years ago.

Mitterrand unveiled a plaque at the scene of the worst attack, outside a department store in the Rue de Rennes, where a bomb tossed from a car killed seven people and wounded 54 on September 17, 1986.

Ex-prime minister Jacques Chirac, whose government was in power at the time, also attended the ceremony, watched by a crowd of several hundred.

2 killed, 6 wounded

Gang warfare

GARDEN GROVE, California, (AP): Gunmen opened fire with assault rifles as family members piled into their cars to see a movie, killing a rival gang member and a four-year-old boy and wounding six other people, police said.

Killed in Saturday night's shooting were Miguel Lorenzo Navarro, 17, and Frank Fernandez Jr., said police Lt. Ron Weigand.

A group of family members and friends were getting into several vehicles to go see the movie "Lethal Weapon 2" when a truck filled with gang members drove by, witnesses said.

"It sounded like something big and fast," said the boy's father, Frank Fernandez, a self-described former gang member.

"Everybody was yelling 'get down get down' I tried to put everybody down, but my little boy was standing up in the back and he got shot in the chest," Fernandez said.

Navarro's mother, Micki Camacho, said her son was released from the California youth authority three months ago and had just gotten a new job as a warehouse clerk and purchased his first car.

There were no arrests by Sunday night.

10 wounded

MILAN, Italy, Sept 18, (Reuters): A man shot his brother dead by mistake and hospitals in northern Italy said about 10 people there were wounded when the country's hunting season started yesterday.

A 36-year-old Tuscan carpenter died from stomach wounds after his brother's automatic rifle went off accidentally. A man was in serious condition after being shot in the face by his brother-in-law hunter near Bologna. Another hunter was felled by a bullet in the eye.

Several hundred ecologists turned out with whistles, horns and tambourines at dawn to frighten birds and animals away from woodlands and spoil the day's shooting for Italy's 1.2 million licensed hunters.

Unjust society

LONDON, Sept 18, (Kuna): Nearly three-quarters of the British electorate think there is one law for the rich and one law for the poor in Britain today, according to a poll published here today.

More than 50 per cent of the Conservative Party supporters agree with this view, the ICM survey carried by the Guardian Newspaper pointed out.

This belief is shared by men and women, young and old, north and south and by all social classes.

This judgement on the UK as an unjust society is one of several findings, which showed that during his ten years in power British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher "has failed to win the hearts and minds of voters."



YATHREB TECHNOCRAFT INTERNATIONAL

REQUIRES

- 1. Female Executive Secretaries (2)**
Full time (1) part time (1)
★ Minimum (5) years' experience with thorough knowledge of typing, shorthand, word processing, telex, fax, PC & ability to handle office correspondence independently.

- 2. Sales Representatives (male/female) (2)**
Minimum (5) years' sales experience in office automation products, PC/fax machine/medical equipments etc. Must drive his/her own car.

Please contact tel: 2401947, 2401948, 2405160

REQUIRED

immediately

A leading company immediately requires

DRIVERS

who must have:

- 1. Valid general Kuwaiti driving licence**
- 2. Driving heavy equipments, trucks and cranes.**
- 3. Valid transferable residence**
- 4. Ready to join work immediately**

Tel. 3263577. P.O. Box 9021 Ahmadi

Save Gary from wife

CHICAGO, Sept 18, (AP): Gary Dotson, who was cleared last month of rape and kidnapping charges that were recounted by his accuser, has been arrested for trespassing in his fourth run-in with the law since he gained notoriety.

Dotson was arrested yesterday after his wife, Camille, from whom he is legally separated, signed a complaint against him for refusing to leave her apartment, said Cook County sheriff's Lt. Arthur Jackson.

Dotson was being held in lieu of \$100 bail. He was scheduled to appear in court Oct 6.

Criminal trespassing is a misdemeanor charge punishable by no more than a year in prison, Jackson said.

Dotson, 32, was cleared Aug 14 of charges brought after Cathleen Crowell Webb accused him of rape and kidnapping in 1977. Dotson was convicted in 1979, but Mrs Webb came forward six years later saying he never committed the crime.

REQUIRED URGENTLY QUANTITY SURVEYOR/ESTIMATOR

For a landscape construction company Must be fully qualified with

- Minimum 5 years' experience in Kuwait/Middle East
- Experience in construction industry (Civil & Mechanical)
- Fully conversant with all contractual matters, ref. claims, preparing bids, etc. & computer ability
- Transferable visa required

Interested candidates please call Tel. 3929514/3926847 (8 am - 1 pm & 3:30 - 7:00 pm)

مكة المكرمة

Beijing troops get ready for long stay

BEIJING, Sept. 18. (AP)—Martial law troops stationed in Beijing for nearly four months have begun to build permanent shelters in preparation for what appears to be an extended stay, the China News Service said today.

Also today, the semi-official service said security personnel had begun spot-checking the identification cards of Beijing's more than 10 million citizens.

Unexpectedly, the report said police had conducted door-to-door checks at boarding houses, indicating the "purported" routine "examinations" may be attempts to locate individuals wanted by the police for their part in this spring's democracy movement.

The Beijing Evening News reported that soldiers in the western part of the city, where most of the capital's universities are located, have been living outdoors in "poor conditions" since martial law was declared in the capital May 20.

In order to "rectify" this situation, a local government official provided workers and building materials and erected prefabricated housing capable of sheltering thousands of soldiers.

Also built were cafeterias, showerhouses, food storage lockers and "convenience centres," the newspaper said.

The report augments recent government statements that troops will be billeted in the capital for the foreseeable future. Those were supported by Yuan Mu, the spokesman for the state council, China's cabinet, in a weekend interview with Japanese reporters.

The enforcement of martial law is one of the important factors to maintain stability in the capital and the whole country," Yuan said. "Therefore, the imposition of martial law on parts of Beijing will last for some time."

Western diplomats and Chinese sources have conjectured that martial law may remain in effect through the 1990 Asian Games, which are scheduled to be held in Beijing next September.

The China News Service reported today that security officials had begun checking resident identification cards over the weekend, in a new policy that has accompanied a significant increase in security measures leading up to the nation's 40th anniversary celebration on Oct. 1.

The policy of issuing identity cards to all of China's 1.1 billion people was implemented two years ago. Presently more than 570 million people have registered nationwide, with only 610,000 of 10 million Beijing residents picking up their cards.

Authorities initially claimed that the checks would be a routine aspect of security work.

But last Friday night, the first day the new regulation went into effect, police conducted a door-to-door check of a boarding house operated by a government ministry, indicating that they might be using the identity checks as a pretence for carrying out searches in pursuit for democracy movement activists.

■ Anyone caught visiting a prostitute in China, including foreigners, will be sent to a labour camp, a Communist Party official has warned.

Li Ruihuan, a new member of the politburo standing committee, said the penalty would also extend to prostitutes' clients from Hong Kong and Macao, the Wen Wei Po newspaper reported today.

The pro-Beijing newspaper published in Hong Kong quoted him as saying foreigners had to obey Chinese laws and there would be no privileges for anyone who insulted women.

■ An explosion aboard a train near Shanghai on June 26 that killed at least 24 people was a bizarre suicide by a debt-ridden farmer, the semi-official China News Service (CNS) said today.

Foreign Minister Qian Qichen of China arrived today in Cairo for a three-day official visit during which he is to meet President Hosni Mubarak and other senior officials.

■ Canada's Trade Minister said today that although his nation deplored what the Chinese government had done to its people, it would not seek to isolate China on the international stage.

India, Sri Lanka ink troops pullout accord

Two sides differ on interpretation

COLOMBO, Sept. 18. (Reuters)—New Delhi and Colombo signed an accord today on the withdrawal of about 41,000 Indian soldiers from Sri Lanka but the ink had barely dried before the two sides were in disagreement over how to interpret it.

In a statement on the accord signed in Colombo, Sri Lanka said India had given an assurance it would make all efforts to complete the pullout by December 31. It made no suggestion of a possible hitch.

But in New Delhi, a senior official said a complete withdrawal within the specified time depended on guarantees for the safety of Sri Lanka's minority Tamils.

The official, who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity, said withdrawal depended on peace being installed in the northern and eastern provinces. "It is an integral document. You cannot take one paragraph on its own and delink it from any other paragraph," he said.

Diplomats in Colombo said President Ranasinghe Premadasa, unable to sever in one stroke Sri Lanka's "Ghandian knot", had agreed instead to unravel it.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi sent forces to northern Sri Lanka in July 1987 to stop a Tamil separatist rebellion.

Premadasa had demanded all Indian troops leave by July 29, the second anniversary of their arrival, but Rajiv refused. However, he ordered a token withdrawal of 600 soldiers and Sri Lanka agreed to hold talks on a phased withdrawal.

Diplomats in Colombo said acceptance of Premadasa's order would have been a disaster for Rajiv in general elections he must call by the end of 1989.

In New Delhi, aides said Rajiv's policy was largely dictated by the need for votes among India's 50 million Tamils.

By making Tamil safety the primary problem, he could win support from the government of opposition-ruled Tamil Nadu and remove the issue from the platform of the national opposition.

Diplomats in Colombo doubted the Indian pullout would end violence in the Tamil-dominated provinces.

They said rebels of the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) could turn their guns on rival groups they have accused of collaborating with the Indians.

Under the accord India also agreed to a ceasefire by its troops in their fight against the LTTE from 6 am (1130 GMT) on Wednesday, the statement said.

The Tigers have said they are prepared to honour a ceasefire.

Under the accord, Sri Lankan authorities, including a provincial police force, would take over security control from Indian forces during the next three months.

A security co-ordinating group comprising the defence minister, the Tamil chief minister of the north-east council and other officials will supervise the transition, the statement added.

An observer group, including the companies of the Sri Lankan and Indian forces, will be set up to monitor the ceasefire.

The Indian High Commission, or embassy, said soldiers have launched a major search-and-destroy operation in the north-east in which 40 Tamil rebels were killed and 28 wounded.

At least five Indian soldiers were killed and 16 wounded in the operation that began last Tuesday, said a statement by the High Commission.

It said nine rebel camps, including two major bases in the jungles of Kottukulan village in Trincomalee district, were destroyed.

Troops also seized hundreds of explosives devices, 50 mines, 25 kilograms (55 pounds) of explosives and enough rations to feed 300 people for three months, it said.

India, the regional power which mediated the July 1987 accord, became involved in Sri Lanka's ethnic problems because 60 million Tamils living in southern India are sympathetic to the rebel cause.

Tamils make up 18 per cent of the island's 16 million people and contend they are denied jobs and education by the Sinhalese, who comprise 75 per cent of the population and dominate the government and military.

Typhoon death toll rises to 72

BEIJING, Sept. 18. (AP)—The most powerful storm to hit China's Zhejiang province in decades has killed 72 people and left hundreds missing, the nationally televised evening news said today.

The newscast showed the aftermath of Saturday's typhoon Vera—toppled buildings, flattened fields and workers rebuilding the shoreline with stones and sandbags. It did not give any details on the 72 dead or the hundreds missing.

The official Xinhua news agency said on Saturday that the typhoon was the most severe storm to hit the coastal province in 27 years and that it killed 48 people and injured 190. Today's newscast did not give a figure for the number injured.



Sultan Azlan Shah (second from left) strides into the Istana Negara (National Palace) under the watchful eye of cabinet ministers and their spouses. (Reuters wirephoto)

9th Malaysia king installed

Fireworks, music, mark ceremony

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept. 18. (AP)—Sultan Azlan Shah today raised the state sword and kissed his jewelled hilt in a ceremony installing him as Malaysia's ninth Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, or king.

To the sound of ancient drums, flutes and gongs, the proclamation went up: "The king has been installed."

"Long live the king," was the ritual response, uttered three times.

The king, a 61-year-old former supreme court justice in the former British colony, assumed the post in a ceremony that dates back five centuries. His wife, Tuanku Bainun, seated on the royal yellow throne with a diamond tiara, became the Raja Permaisuri Agong, or queen.

The king's installation day was a national holiday. There were fireworks displays, music, dance and other public entertainment.

For the installation ceremony, held in the chandelied throne room of the white-domed national palace, the king wore a black collarless suit embroidered with gold thread and a white tengkolok, a Malay royal headdress of silk with the state crest in diamonds.

Palace officials said the ceremony is not called a coronation because it does not involve the placing of a headdress or crown on the king's head.

The king performed the rite of kissing the state sword, or kris, which has a wavy blade and is embedded with precious stones. During the installation, witnessed by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad and 690 invited guests, the king also kissed the Holy Quran.

The ceremony was adopted from those used in the Malay royal courts for installing sultans, officials said.

Present at the ceremony was Malaysia's first prime minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, who invented the complicated system of choosing Malaysia's king.

The king is elected to a five-year term by secret ballot from among the sultans of nine Malay states.

The Tunku, himself a prince from Kedah state, wanted to preserve the monarchy after independence. Since all the sultans wanted to be king, it was decided they would meet and vote by secret ballot, electing one of their number king for a five-year term, after which he would return to rule his own state.

Another Sultan is elected Timbalan Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, or deputy king, and acts for the king when he is abroad or ill.

In most states, the eldest son of the sultan becomes the heir to the local throne. But in Perak state, a few royal families rotate the rulership, and in Negri Sembilan the chiefs of the various districts meet and elect a representative ruler for life.

Sultan Azlan was elected king and Negri Sembilan's Tuanku Jaafar deputy king in a secret ballot held on March 2.

The king and his deputy were sworn into office on April 26 and began their duties before today's formal installation.

Malaysia's king is a ceremonial head of state. The political power rests with a British-style national Parliament and the prime minister.

Sultan Azlan and his deputy head are the Muslim spiritual leaders in their country, however. The king's oath contains a pledge to "wholeheartedly protect the religion of Islam."

Raja Azlan was born on April 19, 1928, to one of the Perak royal families of the Batu Gajah district, 130 kms (78 miles) north of Kuala Lumpur. He attended Nottingham University in England, graduating with a law degree in 1955.

He then returned to Malaysia and joined the legal service, becoming in 1982 the Lord President of the Supreme Court, the highest-ranking judge in Malaysia.

He resigned from the post when Sultan Idris Iskandar of Perak, whom most people had expected to be elected deputy king and later king, suddenly died of a heart attack on Feb. 3, 1984.



Vietnamese boat people peek through the security shutters to catch a glimpse of Maude during his visit. (Reuters wirephoto)

Fake boat people must quit

No alternative, says Maude

HONG KONG, Sept. 18. (UPI)—The British Foreign Office minister responsible for Hong Kong said today all Vietnamese boat people screened out of resettlement programmes will have to return to Vietnam.

Francis Maude, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, told reporters that Hong Kong would have to look beyond the UN-sponsored voluntary repatriation programme in order to halt the mass influx of Vietnamese into the territory and to ensure the Vietnamese did not stay in the British colony.

"Every single country has agreed that those who are screened out, that those who are determined not to be refugees, there is no alternative to returning to Vietnam," Maude said.

"What we have to do is work together with the international community to make that a reality—to make it understood by those who are here already and to those who may be thinking about trying to come here that that is what the future holds," he said.

"I think it is in the highest degree unlikely that it (voluntary repatriation) will solve the problem fully," Maude said, following a tour of Hei Ling Chau, a camp that holds about 4,000 boat people.

"What we have to do, is to make sure that when we move to other systems of repatriation that they do work," he said.

Maude, who arrived yesterday for his first visit to the colony since taking office in July, said Hong Kong's boat people problem loomed very large in the mind of the British government.

Twenty-one Vietnamese refugees landed near Kota Bharu, 350 kms (210 miles) northeast of Kuala Lumpur, it was reported today.

The Vietnamese, aged between two and 60 and comprising 13 men, four women and four children, left Kien Giang, Vietnam, in a boat three days ago, the national news agency Bernama reported quoting refugee officials. They reached Malaysia yesterday, it quoted the officials as saying.

Reporting from space

Two Japanese selected

TOKYO, Sept. 18. (AP)—A Japanese television network announced today it has chosen two "cosmo-reporters," one of whom is to fly to a Soviet space station in 1991, possibly becoming Japan's first person in space.

One of the two Tokyo Broadcasting System employees—a 47-year-old former bureau chief in Washington and a 25-year-old camerawoman—also could become the world's first journalist to experience space flight.

TBS announced Toyohiro Akiyama and Ryoko Kikuchi as its final candidates to fly to the Soviet Mir space station after a six-month search for employees who could pass the strict Soviet medical tests required for the eight-day mission.

"My body was unexpectedly sturdy," said Akiyama, who headed the network's foreign news department until transferring to the space project division three weeks ago.

Akiyama acknowledged, however, that before applying for a spot on Mir he smoked four packs of cigarettes a day and liked his whiskey straight.

"Regarding health, I am an average journalist," Akiyama said.

"When I first started working here my goal was to be assigned to Beijing," said Miss Kikuchi, who covered the Seoul Olympics for TBS last summer. "I never imagined I would be doing anything like this."

The two would-be cosmonauts, dressed in mock spacesuits, held a news conference today. They are to leave next month for six months of Russian language at the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre near Moscow.

Next year, they will be joined at the centre

by cosmonaut trainees from France, Britain and Austria.

TBS, one of five major Japanese television networks, received 162 applications for the assignment in space after announcing it had signed a contract with the Soviet space agency, Glavkosmos, in March.

Five TBS employees passed the full battery of health checks in both the Soviet Union and Japan.

The final candidates were selected for their background in journalism, familiarity with operating a TV camera, on-air presence, and ability to give speeches and possibly later write a book about the experience.

Daily television reports from the space station are planned, along with twice-a-day radio spots.

TBS officials refuse to say how much they are paying the Soviets for the seat aboard Mir—reportedly about \$11 million—or will they say exactly when the flight is scheduled.

"In our contract with the Soviets, we said that we hope to realise the flight by May 1991, which is the 40th anniversary of our network's founding," said Tetsuro Aoki, head of the space project division. "But their position is that they must wait" before setting an exact schedule, he said.

Meanwhile, three Japanese, including one woman, are being trained by the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration for a flight on the US Discovery space shuttle scheduled to begin June 17, 1991.

One of the three Japanese astronauts, who were chosen more than four years ago, will join the shuttle mission as a payload specialist and carry out experiments while aboard.

Next year, they will be joined at the centre

Quayle to raise human rights issue during talks with Asian leaders

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18. (UPI)—Vice President Dan Quayle left Washington today on his fourth overseas mission, an 11-day trip to the Pacific rim countries of South Korea, Japan, the Philippines and Malaysia.

Quayle's primary mission will be to head the American delegation to the international democratic union conference in Tokyo, a gathering of Conservative Party leaders from Western democracies.

But his itinerary also will include high-level meetings with key officials in each country, as

well as his first session with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher while in Tokyo.

On his way to the strategic Pacific rim nations, Quayle first will tackle a touchy domestic issue when he stops in Anchorage, Alaska, for a refuelling stop.

There, accompanied by Transportation Secretary Samuel Skinner, Quayle was scheduled to meet today with federal, state and local officials, as well as fishermen, to review the clean-up efforts of the massive oil spill at Valdez, Alaska. Exxon ended a six-month salvage

effort on Friday.

Quayle's press secretary, David Beckwith, said the vice president then will head to Seoul, South Korea.

The trip in part parallels one taken by Bush in February, when the President travelled to Tokyo for the funeral of emperor Hirohito and addressed the National Assembly in South Korea. Unlike Bush, however, Quayle will not be visiting China in the wake of the Beijing government's harsh crackdown last spring on student pro-democracy demonstrations.

"He is not content with just going through the motions on these trips," Beckwith said. "We've stirred the pot a few times and we might again this time."

In South Korea, for example, Quayle in two days of talks with President Roh Tae-woo and other government and opposition leaders will follow up on Bush's pledge to maintain US troop presence in the country with a trip to the demilitarised zone, but also on the president's call for more open trading between the United States and South Korea.

COMPENSATION/JOB ANALYST

The Personnel Department of a leading Bank in Kuwait has a vacancy for a professional Compensation / Job Analyst with the following qualifications:-

- 5 years experience in Compensation & Benefits
- 3 years experience in Job Analysis
- 3 years experience in Job Evaluation
- Ability to analyse data and to develop and maintain compensation programmes.
- Excellent command of the English Language and good technical writing skills
- University Graduate

Familiarity in writing job descriptions is essential and previous experience in conducting compensation surveys in a Banking/ Financial environment would be a considerable advantage.

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Please send your resume in confidence to:

RECRUITMENT MANAGER
P.O. BOX 25363, SAFAT,
13114 SAFAT,
KUWAIT.

INTERNATIONAL

Russians need soap too

Yeltsin all praise for Americans

MIAMI, Sept 18, (AP): Boris Yeltsin has returned to the Soviet Union, ending a whirlwind nine-city tour of the United States with an awe-struck visit to a supermarket.

If Soviet citizens could see an American market, "there would be a revolution," Yeltsin said after a visit to Randall's supermarket near Houston, a visit that seemed to impress him much more than an earlier stop at NASA mission control at the Johnson Space Centre.

"Even the Politburo doesn't have this choice," he said, sampling the cheese and ogling a variety of meats.

Yeltsin, the maverick Soviet politician who seems to be vying with Mikhail Gorbachev to captivate the

American imagination, ended his week-long dash through the country with a flourish of flamboyant remarks.

Presented with a single yellow rose and a sackful of snacks from the grocery store employees, he responded: "Is this what you give a starving Russian? You should add some soap, we need that, too."

Americans, he said, were "industrious, friendly, full of good humour and vitality." The trip had changed his old perception of Americans as "generally crude and offensive."

■ The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda today published a denunciation of the conduct of Yeltsin during his recent US tour.



Cambodian policeman smoking cigarettes while standing guard over a main street on Sept 15. (Reuters wirephoto)

US uncertain on Cambodia

Fears of renewed civil war

WASHINGTON, Sept 18, (Reuters): The collapse of Paris peace talks has caused the United States to reassess its policy on Cambodia where the imminent withdrawal of Vietnamese troops is stoking fears of renewed civil war.

The questioning is most pronounced in Congress but US officials say privately the Bush administration is also uncertain about what comes next.

The debate centres on whether Washington should continue backing Prince Norodom Sihanouk and whether it should pursue an administration proposal to supply his forces with arms, entangling the United States in an intractable conflict.

"Washington is in a period of reassessment," said one Asia expert. "In the aftermath of Paris, people are reconsidering whether Sihanouk and the non-communist resistance should be the centrepiece" of US policy.

The peace talks failed to produce a power-sharing accord between the government of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, backed by Vietnam and the Soviet Union, and the three guerrilla factions in a loose coalition led by Sihanouk.

Conference participants hoped to succeed before Sept 26 when Vietnam is due to complete its withdrawal of troops who have shored up the Phnom Penh government since 1979.

Washington blamed the talks' failure on Vietnam and Hun Sen. The two rejected a role in a coalition government for the Khmer Rouge, who are accused of killing at least one million Cambodians when they ruled the country from 1975 to 1979.

But US Congressmen and private analysts argue the United States may be at least partly at fault for stubbornly endorsing Sihanouk's demand that the Khmer Rouge be included.

For years, the United States pursued one objective — getting Vietnam to withdraw its troops. Some critics believe policymakers never thought through the complexities of Cambodian peacemaking that are finally being faced now.

The administration insists it would prefer to exclude the Khmer Rouge, who are far stronger militarily than their ostensible allies, the non-communist resistance forces of Sihanouk and Son Sann.

But echoing the view of Sihanouk and Washington's Asian allies, Assistant-Secretary of State Richard Solomon told Congress that keeping out the Khmer Rouge would probably mean civil war. Giving them a limited role held some possibility of a settlement that would bar their return to dominance.

Backers of the non-communist resistance like Congressman Stephen Solarz of New York have begun to question support for Sihanouk, accusing him of "monumental misjudgments."

One thing is clear — the United States, which never recovered from its defeat in Vietnam 14 years ago and bears some blame for Cambodia's turmoil today, now sees its limits.

As Deputy-Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger said recently: "The United States does not have within its power to determine the future government of Cambodia."

But what if the Khmer Rouge overrun the government and threaten another genocide in Cambodia?

US officials and other experts admit it would pose a terrible dilemma for which no one is prepared. Congress is likely to oppose sending US troops. As one US official told Reuters: "Why should we get sucked into a mess like this?"

Red to pink to save neck

WARSAW, Sept 18, (Reuters): Poland's communist leaders, saying their party faced the threat of political extinction, today proposed transforming it into "a new socialist party" able to flourish under democracy.

At its first meeting since losing power to a Solidarity-led government this month, the 230-member central committee heard a politburo warning that only a radical change could save the former ruling party from oblivion.

Politburo member Leszek Miller, delivering a report by the 17-member ruling body, said the party had to win more popular support if it hoped to survive as a strong and worthwhile political partner for Solidarity.

"Otherwise we will inevitably be pushed aside to the margin of political life and we will be dominated and removed not only by Solidarity but also by other political forces," Miller said.

In an unprecedented gesture, the party admitted Western journalists to the start of the meeting in its fortress-like headquarters in central Warsaw.

"This is a very special moment," Miller said as central committee members gaped in amazement at the journalists.

"Today for the first time in the 41-year history of the Polish United Workers Party (PUWP) we are holding a central committee plenum in a situation in which we do not have a majority in Parliament or in the government," Miller said.

The committee was meeting to lay down the guidelines for a party congress that will have power to change its name, ideology and statutes.

The communists, put in power at the end of World War Two by Soviet troops, controlled Poland for 45 years. Their defeat by Solidarity in partly-free parliamentary elections in June brought the installation of a Solidarity-led government on September 12.

The prospect of electoral annihilation in fully-free elections in 1993 has provoked heated debate about the future among the party's two million members and draws calls for the creation of a new party.

Miller advised the central committee against diehard opposition to the new government, saying it had aroused "hope and optimism in society" and its failure would only bring renewed bitterness against the party.

■ The European Economic Community announced delivery dates for its emergency food shipments being sent to Poland as part of a 120 million-dollar package of food aid.

The EEC's executive commission said 200,000 tons of wheat would be taken from storage in West Germany and would arrive in the Polish port of Gdansk by load of 25,000 tons on Oct 7 or 8 and again on Oct 21 or 22.

Further deliveries of 25,000 tons would be made on Nov 4 or 5 and on Nov 18 or 19. A delivery of 18,906 tons would also arrive on Oct 20 and 21.

■ A poll conducted in 23 provinces showed that most people give Poland's first non-communist government a good chance to succeed, a pro-Solidarity newspaper reported.

The Gazeta Wyborcza newspaper said 2,134 people were surveyed in 23 provinces last week and asked whether the government would be successful.

Of the 125,000 refugee slots allocated for fiscal 1990 — which starts Oct 1 — 30,000 Soviet Jews will apply for refugee status in fiscal 1990.

Jewish groups say as many as 500,000 Jews may seek to come here in the coming years if the doors remain open, especially in light of rising anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union.

An internal State Department report used by immigration and naturalisation officers in Moscow concluded that Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's glasnost policy — with its



Return church

About 100,000 people singing hymns and carrying blue-yellow Ukrainian flags marched through Lvov on Sept 17 to demand legalisation of the Ukrainian Catholic church. They filed through city streets to a hilltop church they want returned as a Catholic cathedral. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviets to tackle nationalities issue

Plenum to reflect internal squabbles

MOSOW, Sept 18, (Agencies): Hardliners and reformists are expected to clash at a long-delayed Soviet Communist Party meeting this week devoted to nationalism which has threatened to unravel the fabric of the Soviet federation.

One western diplomat who follows the nationalities issue predicted tomorrow's central committee plenum would reflect these internal party squabbles rather than resolve ethnic problems simmering in areas from the Baltic republics to the volatile Transcaucasus.

Nationalism and ethnic unrest have threatened to undermine the "perestroika" reform programme of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev and the special session is also expected to discuss a new party congress.

The congress is due in early 1991 but is expected to be brought forward at Gorbachev's insistence so that more reformers can be moved into senior party circles.

Only a congress can formally elect new central committee members. Party radicals such as Boris Yeltsin, fresh from his successful US tour, have called for an early session to clear out more conservatives from the top ranks.

An Aug 17 party document promised "radical transformations in the Soviet federation" to address the needs of the different nationalities. It provided few details but said the rights of the 15 republics should be broadened substantially.

In the latest outpouring of national feeling, at least 100,000 people, many carrying nationalist flags, marched yesterday through the streets of Lvov, near the Polish border, to demand relegalisation of the banned Ukrainian Catholic, or Uniate, church.

The Uniate church, forcibly merged with the Russian Orthodox church in 1694, has become an increasingly visible symbol of Ukrainian national aspirations.

Some 30,000 people gathered in the centre of Lvov yesterday evening for a candlelight demonstration condemning the occupation by Soviet troops of the western Ukraine 50 years ago.

In the Transcaucasus, where more than 100 people have died in ethnic fighting between Armenians and Azeris in the past 18 months, the two rival republics remain deadlocked over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Both Armenia and Azerbaijan have suspended extraordinary sessions of their respective parliaments until after the nationalities plenum.

The central committee meeting, set for tomorrow and Wednesday, follows a summer of nationalist activism.

Huge protest meetings and a general strike have paralysed Azerbaijan.

■ A bomb exploded on a bus and killed five people in the Republic of Azerbaijan, where rival ethnic groups have carried out violent protests, Pravda said today.

The Communist Party daily said the blast occurred near the central Azerbaijani town of Evlakh on Saturday. The bomb exploded about six hours after the bus left Tbilisi, the capital of the Georgian republic, for the Azerbaijani capital of Baku.

"Who planted the bomb and how, it's still difficult to say," Azerbaijani Assistant Interior Minister Akif Rafiyev told Pravda. The device was placed under a window seat in the bus, Pravda said.

Among those killed was a baby, Pravda said. Twenty-seven people were hurt, including five in critical condition, the report said.

Members of Congress say if tight budgets are the problem keeping more Soviet Jews from coming to the United States, "creative financing" should be considered.

Sen. Howard Metzenbaum suggested the government help additional refugees by lending them money for their relocation.

"When the faucets start opening... the United States finds itself totally incapable of dealing with the very policy it is demanding," said Rep. Howard Berman.

750 more flee; East Germans harassed

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Sept 18, (AP): Nearly 750 East German refugees arrived in Bavaria during the night, officials said today, as reports of harassment by Czechoslovak and East German authorities continued.

East German refugees said Czechoslovak and East German authorities were seizing their passports and travel visas to stop them from reaching Hungary and immigrating to the West.

The reported crackdown has forced emigrants into acts of desperation. An East German man taking part in the exodus to West Germany drowned while swimming across the Danube river from Czechoslovakia to Hungary, refugee workers said today.

The man was forced to swim because he had no travel documents, they said.

A Czechoslovak man on Monday managed to cross his communist homeland's border to West Germany on a homemade motorised hang glider, Bavarian border police said.

The most direct route for East Germans seeking to take advantage of Hungary's free passage to Austria is through Czechoslovakia, located between East Germany and Hungary.

In Poland, the number of East Germans taking refuge in the West German embassy swelled over the weekend to about 100, the pro-Solidarity Gazeta Wyborcza reported today. East Germans are automatically eligible for West German citizenship.

Wolfgang Gumbel, head of the West German Maltese aid service, said that in some cases Hungarian refugees have been forced off East German and Czechoslovak trains and ordered to return home.

More than 16,000 refugees have arrived in West Germany since Hungary opened its border to the West on Sept 11. The total number of East Germans who have used Hungary for passage to the West since early summer is thought to exceed 25,000.

Critics said East German officials have used the refugees to demand that the West "not restrict travel" for East Germans to visit Hungary.

They said the West had been "too soft" and that more and more people are being told that their West German relatives are being taken from them.

East Germany and Czechoslovakia have criticised Hungary's decision to open its western border to East Germans fleeing their communist homeland and its hard-line leadership.

The Soviets have criticised West Germany but refrained from directly condemning Hungary.

Hungary has rejected the criticism by saying the decision was based on humanitarian grounds. Most of the refugees fleeing to West Germany are young, skilled workers, who have said they were dissatisfied with economic and political conditions at home.

Bavarian border police spokesman Klaus Papenhus said 413 people in buses and cars, arrived and registered as refugees came overnight. Another 328 people crossed the border in trains and continued on to camps in central West Germany.

"We expect seven more busloads to arrive today, with up to 350 people," he told the Associated Press in an interview.

Asked about reports that East Germans travelling to Hungary were being harassed, Papenhus said: "We have nothing official on that, only that some of those arriving reported people had been pulled off trains in the DDR (East Germany) and Czechoslovakia without explanation."

The 22-year-old East German who drowned in the Danube was the first casualty reported among the thousands of East Germans travelling to Hungary.

Wagner quoted the man's friends as saying that he had already been caught by East German authorities for trying to flee illegally.

The Czechoslovak man, a 39-year-old doctor, took off from a village south of Domazlice near the West German border and flew, apparently unnoticed, over the heavily guarded frontier.

■ East German refugees express fear of the hardline communist state they have turned their backs on as they pour through Hungary on their way to the West.

"Are you press or state?" one refugee asked a journalist, referring in popular slang to East Germany's state security service, the Staatssicherheitsdienst.

"Will I get in trouble if you write this?" asked a second refugee who crossed the Czechoslovak border illegally to join an exodus of more than 15,000 of his compatriots to the West across Hungary's open border with Austria.



Convent row goes on

Cardinal John J. O'Connor said the Catholic Church should honour the commitment it made with Jewish groups and move the convent at the Auschwitz death camp.

The cardinal said he would consider a proposal by Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel that O'Connor and the archbishop of Paris ask Pope John Paul II to intervene.

Meanwhile, Poland's Roman Catholic leader, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, met over the weekend with Zygmunt Nisenzon, a Polish-born Jewish millionaire from West Germany, who has agreed to help resolve the Catholic-Jewish dispute over the convent. (Reuters wirephoto)

Killer identified again

That's him: Lisbet

STOCKHOLM, Sept 18, (Reuters): Christer Pettersson, convicted of the 1986 murder of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, pleaded to Palme's widow at an appeals court hearing today after she identified him again as the killer.

"I want to ask you here and now to look the judge in the eyes for 10 seconds and say that I killed your husband," Pettersson said.

Palme's widow Lisbet, facing Pettersson across the Stockholm courtroom, responded by turning and nodding to the seven-man panel of four judges and three lay assessors.

Pettersson, 42, a self-confessed thief and drug addict, was jailed for life by a split Stockholm district court on July 27.

Pettersson, who pleads not guilty, was brought into the Appeals Court at the end of Mrs Palme's testimony. She had requested that he not be present when she testified.

US in dilemma over Jewish emigres as Soviets open the gate

WASHINGTON, Sept 18, (AP): Now that the doors of the Soviet Union have opened after 20 years of American knocking, the United States is faced with the dilemma of handling an unprecedented surge of Soviet emigres.

Critics charge the administration's response, as presented this week on Capitol Hill after seven months of deliberations, is inadequate, unimaginative and risks missing a historic opportunity.

The administration argues it is doing its best in the face of shrinking budgets and the problem of dealing with 14 million refugees worldwide,

many of whom would like to move to the United States.

Of the 125,000 refugee slots allocated for fiscal 1990 — which starts Oct 1 — 30,000 Soviet Jews will apply for refugee status in fiscal 1990.

Jewish groups say as many as 500,000 Jews may seek to come here in the coming years if the doors remain open, especially in light of rising anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union.

An internal State Department report used by immigration and naturalisation officers in Moscow concluded that Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's glasnost policy — with its

liberalised rights to free speech and press — has spawned discrimination against Jews throughout the Soviet Union.

Religious groups and many legislators argue that Gorbachev's reforms and his political future are by no means assured success, and their failure could strand thousands of persecuted people wishing to leave.

"Soviet history has painfully demonstrated that hells in government repression are usually followed by harsh oppression," said a letter to Congress from World Relief, which represents Evangelical Christians. The Evangelicals con-

stitute a small percentage of those seeking to come here.

Members of Congress say if tight budgets are the problem keeping more Soviet Jews from coming to the United States, "creative financing" should be considered.

Sen. Howard Metzenbaum suggested the government help additional refugees by lending them money for their relocation.

"When the faucets start opening... the United States finds itself totally incapable of dealing with the very policy it is demanding," said Rep. Howard Berman.

مكة المكرمة



Nothing left

A Muslim woman cries as she passes near the building which collapsed in the Shiite suburbs of Beirut during an artillery duel between Christian

Army troops and Syrian forces. At least eight people were killed in the building collapse. (Reuters wirephoto)

Syrian minister in Tehran: Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad will pay his first visit to Tehran soon, Iran said today.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al-Shara arrived in Tehran and the Iranian news agency Irna quoted Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati as saying they would discuss an imminent visit by Assad. He gave no date.

Iran and Syria have enjoyed close ties since the 1979 revolution which expelled the Shahs although their militaries in Lebanon are often at odds.

Syria upset many Arab countries by its support for non-Arab Iran in its 1980-88 Gulf war with Iraq. (Reuters)

Israel replaces markers: Israel is replacing all grave markers at a cemetery for Arab commandos after finding that signs naming fallen Israeli soldiers marked some enemy graves.

Army spokesman Colonel Raanan Gissin told Reuters yesterday the Army had already replaced two numbered grave markers in the special cemetery near Gadot collective farm in northern Israel.

"Someone took temporary signs used for Israeli soldiers, whitewashed them and put numbers on them. The minute it was discovered the paint had washed off in the rain so that you could see the names, we rectified it," Gissin said. (Reuters)

Arafat to visit Tokyo: PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat will meet Japanese cabinet ministers for the first time during a visit next month to Tokyo, the Foreign Ministry said today.

Among those he will meet during his visit from October 1 to 4 will be Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, a ministry spokesman said.

Arafat first visited to Japan in 1981 at the invitation of members of parliament.

Japan has diplomatic relations with Israel but does not recognize the Palestine Liberation Organisation, although the government allows it to have a representative office in Tokyo. (Reuters)

Traffickers stash drugs: The head of Iran's anti-narcotics squads said today many drug traffickers stashed large amounts of smuggled drugs in hiding places, then fled abroad, Tehran radio reported.

The radio, monitored in Nicaragua, quoted the unidentified head of the squads as saying large consignments of drugs had been smuggled into the country through the Pakistani border.

But he said these drugs remained hidden, as the traffickers themselves had escaped abroad. The radio quoted him as saying the drugs were to be distributed in the larger Iranian cities.

...

BEIRUT, Sept 18, (Reuters): Besieged for six months in Lebanon's Christian enclave, Major-General Michel Aoun is in a diplomatic corner as well.

An Arab League peace plan unveiled on Saturday failed to meet any of his demands but was warmly welcomed by Syria.

The great setback for Aoun was that the plan made no mention of a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon, something which Damascus says can only be discussed when Lebanon is united and at peace.

"It bears the name of the League but is essentially Syria's plan," said a Lebanese political analyst. "All the moderates in the League offer him is the hope in the distant future that a new, unified Lebanon will be able to ask the Syrians to leave."

A 53-year-old career soldier, Aoun gained political power in Christian-controlled parts of Lebanon when constitutional deadlock blocked election of a president last September. A rival Muslim-led government rules in Syrian-controlled areas.

Aoun proclaimed a "war of liberation" in March to force Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad

Expelled to Lebanon: Four Palestinians deported today affirmed continuation of the popular uprising in occupied Arab lands despite Israeli plots and repressive measures.

The deportees, expelled to Lebanon, in an interview with daily Al-Anba published here today said that they were accused of belonging to one of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's factions.

The deportees, Mohammed Al-Moutawar, Oda Al-Musli, Belal Al-Shehadeh, and Majed Al-Baladi talked on their illegal and inhuman detention, noting that the Israeli authority by this action is planning to evacuate the occupied territories from national cadres to abort the uprising. (Kuna)

Qichen in Egypt: Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen arrived in Egypt today on the second leg of a tour to discuss Middle East peace diplomacy.

He said on arrival at Cairo airport from Jordan that China, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, wanted to help to secure peace in the region.

"I look forward to exchanging views with Egyptian Foreign Minister Saad Abdel-Maguid and other officials... particularly over the situation in the Middle East," he said in a statement written in Arabic. (Reuters)

Rebels accuse: Rebels in the northern Ethiopian province of Tigray accused the government today of delaying the launch of preliminary peace talks.

Tewelde Gabru, European representative of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), said the TPLF had repeatedly proposed dates and venues for negotiations through third parties but had been rebuffed by Addis Ababa.

"We are still pushing them to make it as fast as possible if they are sincere," he told Reuters by telephone from London.

Tewelde said the Ethiopian government had acknowledged receiving proposals for peace talks from the TPLF central committee, but had called for negotiations to be postponed. (Reuters)

Sweden's royalty in Amman: Sweden's King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia arrived today for their first state visit to Jordan, one of the few remaining monarchies in the Middle East.

King Hussein and his American-born wife Queen Noor, cabinet ministers and palace aides welcomed the Swedish guests at Amman's heavily-guarded military airport.

Foreign Minister Sren Andersson joined the Swedish entourage in Amman after arriving from talks in Cairo with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestine Liberation Organisation Chief Yasser Arafat. (Reuters)

...

Swift support for the new peace efforts from US President George Bush and UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar showed how internationally isolated Aoun has become.

Western and all Arab powers except Iraq have ignored his appeals for recognition of his government.

The United States, traditionally a friend to Lebanon's Christians, evacuated its embassy in Christian East Beirut on Sept 6 because of what it said were threats from Aoun.

The League plan, drawn up by the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria, calls for an immediate ceasefire and end to arms shipments by sea. A security committee would monitor any violations.

Aoun receives all his arms by sea — most of them from Iraq through Jordan and the Suez Canal. Damascus supplies its Lebanese militia allies by land and would apparently not be affected.

The plan calls for the lifting of all blockades. Syria had already said it would end its siege of Christian-held ports if monitors were in place to stop arms filtering in.

Pledge to pull Algeria out of crisis

ALGIERS, Sept 18, (Reuters): Algeria's new prime minister pledged yesterday to pursue radical political and economic reforms to pull the country out of the crisis and restore public trust in government.

Mouloud Hamrouche, who named a new cabinet on Saturday, told a news conference he would seek a dialogue with the members of the public, budding opposition parties, and trade unions.

"(My) programme will be a turning point that will try to turn the entire society from one system toward another," he said, vowing to accelerate plans launched last year to turn a one-party socialist state into

a multi-party democracy. "There is little time. We must move quickly with concrete action."

Hamrouche proposed a new joint venture law aimed at attracting foreign investment, the transfer of some state enterprises to workers' collectives and political reforms to ensure maximum participation in public life by opposition parties.

President Chadli Benjedid sacked Hamrouche's predecessor, Kasdi Merbah, last week in what many observers saw as an expression of frustration at the slow pace of reform.

Strikes and demonstrations over short-

tages of housing and consumer goods have highlighted public impatience over the economy, hit by falling oil and gas revenue and inefficient state industries.

"We must convince the man on the street that the government is working with him, taking his problems into consideration, and letting him participate in solving these problems," Hamrouche said.

He painted a grim picture of the economy, saying earlier projections of gross domestic product growth of between three and five per cent in 1989 were too optimistic.

But he said his government had no

immediate plans to seek a rescheduling of the country's \$24 billion foreign debt, saying a recognition of the economy should come first.

He did not rule out rescheduling talks at a later stage. "We must first make healthy the economic situation. Once that is achieved we would not exclude discussing with international institutions, to inform them what we are doing... we may find formulas, not necessarily rescheduling."

Hamrouche said planned political reforms now on the drawing board did not go far enough and he would redraft them.

Stalling tactic, Najib raps US

KABUL, Sept 18, (Agencies): Afghan President Najibullah said yesterday that the talks initiated by the United States with former Afghan king Zahir Shah were a stalling tactic.

Najibullah, speaking to participants in an international media conference, said the United States was looking for ways to prolong arms shipments to the Afghan rebels.

He said the talks with Zahir Shah in Rome were an attempt "to bring fresh breath to the abortive military policy of the US government."

The US State Department announced two weeks ago that it had twice sent an envoy to the king to discuss possible ways of ending the 10-year Afghan conflict.

The President did not reject a role for the 74-year-old Zahir Shah, who was deposed in 1973.

"We have proposed that all forces within and outside the country including Zahir Shah take part in national reconciliation," the President said.

The president made a direct appeal to Pakistan, saying that Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto had been elected on a platform of ending the conflict.

He accused the military establishment of forcing her to continue the war in exchange for supporting her bid for office and appealed to the people of Pakistan to "exert pressure on the government of Pakistan to honour its commitments under the Geneva accords to stop interfering in the affairs of the Afghans themselves."

He warned that the war could spill over the border into Pakistan if the current fighting continues. The accords signed in April 1988 paved the way for a complete Soviet withdrawal by February.

Soviet troops had been siding the Afghan government for a decade. The accords called for negotiations and an end to arms shipments, but secondary agreements allowed for both the Americans and the Soviets to continue arming their clients.

He said that, in light of his having survived for seven months without the aid of Soviet troops, it was time for the United States, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and other countries backing the mujahedeen to accept his offer for negotiations.

Najibullah has previously proposed both national talks involving all parties in the conflict as well as an international conference.

The rebels, known as the mujahedeen, or Islamic holy warriors, have rejected negotiations with Najibullah. They have been fighting for a decade to overthrow Marxist government in Kabul.

The Supreme Soviet has drafted a decree that will amnesty Afghan veterans who were taken prisoner during the nine-year war, the longest in Soviet history, the government newspaper Izvestia said.

The amnesty will also offer a choice for soldiers who fled service in Afghanistan and ended up in the United States and Canada, the newspaper said.

Omair Sherzad, a spokesman of the Pakistan-based Jamiat-i-Islami rebel group, said the rebels overran two government posts along the key 60-mile (100-kilometre) road leading from Herat city to the Soviet border town of Torghundi yesterday, and 400 government militia troops surrendered.

...

Swift support for the new peace efforts from US President George Bush and UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar showed how internationally isolated Aoun has become.

Western and all Arab powers except Iraq have ignored his appeals for recognition of his government.

The United States, traditionally a friend to Lebanon's Christians, evacuated its embassy in Christian East Beirut on Sept 6 because of what it said were threats from Aoun.

The League plan, drawn up by the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria, calls for an immediate ceasefire and end to arms shipments by sea. A security committee would monitor any violations.

Aoun receives all his arms by sea — most of them from Iraq through Jordan and the Suez Canal. Damascus supplies its Lebanese militia allies by land and would apparently not be affected.

The plan calls for the lifting of all blockades. Syria had already said it would end its siege of Christian-held ports if monitors were in place to stop arms filtering in.

Israel 'accepts talks with Palestinians'

Rabin disagrees on composition of delegation

CAIRO, Sept 18, (Agencies): Israel's defence minister said today that his government accepts an Egyptian-sponsored peace dialogue with Palestinians but the composition of the delegation presents a problem.

Moreover, Yitzhak Rabin and President Hosni Mubarak disagreed publicly on the question after meeting for more than three hours.

In separate news conferences, Rabin favoured including in the lineup only Palestinians from inside the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza, and Mubarak insisted on using Palestinians from outside as well.

Both sides they expected Israel to present its final position next month on Mubarak's two-proposed peace proposal.

One segment of the proposal calls for a preliminary Israeli-Palestinian dialogue in Cairo to discuss a Palestinian election plan advanced by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza would vote to choose delegates to negotiate with Israel on interim autonomy.

Mubarak also has presented a 10-point memorandum seeking to dress up Shamir's election plan with guarantees and clarifications to make it acceptable to the Palestinians. The document would enshrine the principle of trading occupied land for peace and would give the vote to Palestinians in Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem.

The Egyptian plan has split Israel's coalition cabinet. Both those ideas are anathema to Shamir's right wing Likud bloc, which largely opposes other aspects of the plan as well. The Labour Party of Finance Minister Shimon Peres favours the Egyptian ideas as a means of getting a peace process moving.

Israel Radio today quoted Shamir as saying that if Labour sticks to its support of the Mubarak initiative, "it will lead to a break in the government."

Rabin, a leading Labourite, carried a cabinet mandate on his whirlwind visit to discuss the proposals with Mubarak, who emphasized to reporters that he talked with Rabin as a government envoy and not a Labour Party politician.

Summing up his talks with Mubarak, Rabin said there was "a wide basis" of understanding in Israel on these points:

"First: We more than appreciate President Mubarak's ideas and readiness to assist to bring about a meeting between Israel and Palestinian delegations."

"Second: We agree that the invitation to such a meeting will be made by Egypt."

Third: Those who participate on the Palestinian side will be announced by Egypt."

But Rabin spoke of "certain problems that we have to discuss among ourselves (in Israel) like the composition" of a Palestinian delegation.

Rabin said twice that Israel wanted Palestinian delegations from the West Bank and Gaza, clearly implying it opposed Palestinians from outside as Mubarak has suggested.

"Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

But both leaders voiced cautious optimism about current Israeli-Egyptian exchanges on a possible scenario leading to an overall settlement of the Palestinian problem, which has kept the Middle East in turmoil for four decades. They said their two countries will have further high-level talks.

Rabin flew in for a seven-hour stay today and was driven directly to Mubarak's office for their prolonged meeting. They were alone together for 2-1/2 hours before calling in aides for the remaining 30 minutes.



Mubarak (left) listens to Rabin during a meeting in Cairo. (Reuters wirephoto)

PLO must choose negotiators

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept 18, (Reuters): The Arab mayor of Bethlehem, returning from talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, said yesterday the PLO must choose Palestinian representatives for peace talks with Israel.

"The PLO should have the exclusive right to nominate the people for the coming talks but they should be from both inside and outside the territories," Mayor Elias Freij told Reuters.

Freij was formerly regarded as close to Jordan, which ruled the West Bank before Israel captured it in 1967.

The veteran mayor said he had several talks with the Arafat during a three-day visit to the PLO headquarters in Tunis. "I spent the rest of his two-week trip in Jordan."

Israeli citizens are banned from contact with the PLO. Arabs in the occupied territories who have contact risk arrest on suspicion of PLO membership.

Freij said Israeli authorities questioned him about his talks with the PLO when he crossed the Jordan river from Amman yesterday but he had no problems.

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

Mubarak emerging as a man of peace

CAIRO, Sept 18, (Reuters): Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's visit to Cairo today could begin a process that would give his host, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, a palace in history as a man of peace.

"Mubarak's problem has been that in eight years of office all he has really done is build on the achievements of his predecessors," said one Western diplomat. "He needs to strike out on his own."

When the former bomber pilot took over as president after the assassination of Anwar Sadat in 1981, Mubarak was regarded at home and abroad as a lacklustre stopgap figure.

But his quiet, nondescript style helped in the delicate business of repairing Arab ties broken after Sadat's 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Egypt was formally readmitted to Arab ranks last May, without having to turn its back on its treaty with Israel.

Mubarak now chairs the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the 61-year-old leader has emerged as a self-appointed spokesman on Third World debt.

In July, he joined other leaders at the bicentenary of the French Revolution in Paris to appeal for debt forgiveness.

At home he has tackled immense economic problems and foreign debts of \$50 billion with pragmatism — carefully balancing reforms with the need to avoid social upheaval.

He demonstrated his grip on the levers of power last April by replacing his powerful Defence Minister, Abdel Halim Abu Ghazala, in a move that took most Egyptians by surprise.

Whether true or not, Egyptians used to say President Gamal Abdel Nasser said everything and did nothing, Sadat said nothing and did everything while Mubarak said nothing and did nothing.

That perception has begun to change.

Low-key but persistent diplomacy has put Egypt back in the centre of Arab diplomacy and in recent weeks Mubarak — aided by a professional and polished diplomatic service — has striven to break the deadlock in the Middle East peace process.

Mubarak's overriding advantage in playing the role of honest broker is his ability to talk to all sides: The PLO, the Israelis, the United States and the Soviet Union.

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

Relatives of Iraqi POWs plead for their release

GENEVA, Sept 18, (Reuters): Ahmed was born shortly after his father was captured.

Majda has not seen her husband, a lieutenant-colonel in the Iraqi Army, since 1982.

"I feel abandoned," eight-year-old Ahmed told a news conference today.

Both are members of a delegation of wives and children of Iraqi Prisoners-of-War touring north America and Europe to publicise the plight of thousands of families whose loved ones are still languishing in detention camps more than one year after the guns fell silent in the Gulf.

"All mothers hear the same question day after day: When is father coming

back," a tearful Majda said.

She said she had received no letters from her husband for more than a year, "and they were the first since his capture in 1982."

She had written to him often but never knew whether he received her letters.

Majda said sick or disabled Iraqi POWs who were released over the past few months had told her they were not sure where her husband was being held. "They are being moved around very often," she added.

The two sides hold tens of thousands of POWs which officials of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) are

not allowed to visit.

Under the 1949 conventions, which protect POWs and civilian populations in time of war, prisoners should be repatriated as soon as hostilities cease.

But Iran and Iraq who ended fighting in August of last year after an eight-year war hold a total of over 100,000 soldiers who have become pawns in stalled peace talks.

Baghdad wants priority to be given to a clearing of the Shatt Al-Arab, its main outlet to the sea, and several rounds of talks in Geneva and New York have ended in deadlock.

"What we want to impress on world

opinion is the necessity of separating this purely humanitarian issue from political questions," Majda said through an interpreter.

Along with three other wives and 16 children of POWs she has already visited Washington and New York and their European tour includes Rome where they hope to be received by Pope John Paul II.

A top United Nations official left for Tehran today for talks on a Gulf war peace settlement, a day after Iran's president threatened to use force if Iraq does not withdraw from its territory.

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Rabin returned to Israel today after the talks.

Mubarak dissented. "My opinion is we should not neglect those who are outside," the President said. "It is very important to take some of those who are outside to participate in the dialogue in order to avoid problems."

...

Without a dialogue with the Palestinians in the (occupied) territories we cannot bring about elections," Rabin said.

Paris to get a peek at Kuwait

Exhibition opens Wednesday

PARIS, Sept 18. (Kuna): Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah inaugurates here on Wednesday a cultural week at the Arab World Institute under the title of "Kuwait in Paris".

The information minister is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow, leading the Kuwaiti delegation to this grand cultural event which will introduce anew the Kuwaiti heritage and modern achievements to the French people.

The inauguration of the cultural week will be attended by the Kuwaiti Ambassador, Dr Tareq Razouqi, French government officials, the institute's chairman

Edgar Pisani and a crowd of diplomats, intellectuals and journalists.

The week starts only few days before the upcoming official visit of HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah to France next September 25.

Seminars

The cultural week activities include several seminars on Kuwait's anthropology and the development of women in Kuwait, all to be addressed by prominent Kuwaiti and French scholars.

The Arab World Institute's museum is co-operating with Kuwait museum and the "Islamic Heritage House" of Kuwait

in introducing a series of publications on the Arab world written by European travellers in the period between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries.

There is also another gallery which contains Kuwaiti ruins representing all the eras, starting with those dating back to Alexander the Great until the Islamic epoch.

The cultural week will also introduce the French public to the formative arts of Kuwait in a gallery which contains about 20 paintings and objects of contemporary Kuwaiti artists.

The Information Ministry is setting stands for its publications on Kuwait's

history and development in Arabic, English and French, besides a photo gallery which documents the growth of the Franco-Kuwaiti relations throughout the years.

The development of the Kuwaiti press will be presented in a special section of the exhibition, receiving a direct service of the Kuwait News Agency in both Arabic and English.

On Wednesday night, following the inauguration of the exhibition, Kuwaiti musical troupes will entertain the invitees to a concert of Kuwaiti folkloric and modern dances.

US red apples edible: Awadi

KUWAIT officially announced today that the quantities of US red apples available in the country are free of all chemical substances. Planning Minister and Acting Health Minister, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi described the campaign launched in the past few days on US red apples and its danger to human health, as a manipulated campaign. He affirmed that US red apples in Kuwait do not contain any disease causing chemicals and are good for human consumption.

Health Ministry Assistant Undersecretary Dr Ali Al Saif said that the chemical substance present in the US red apples is not dangerous to health. He added that the tests carried out by the ministry on this particular variety of apples proved that they were 100 per cent good for human consumption. He added that Kuwait Municipality also carried out tests on the latest shipment of US apples that arrived into Kuwait and found it fit for human consumption.

The issue was raised when UAE health authorities opened the US red apples issue after receiving additional information from the US environmental authorities on chemical treatment of US agricultural produce. It was claimed that Americans farmers inject their agricultural produce with a chemical substance known as disodium which on decomposition gives rise to another chemical compound methyl hydrazine which ultimately causes cancer. Yesterday Kuwait health officials affirmed that American exports of red apples to Kuwait were free of the chemical substance.



An abandoned farm in Wafra.

Wafra farmers unhappy with state recompense

A NUMBER of citizens at Wafra have appreciated the opening of the Electricity Emergency Centre but at the same time other citizens expressed dissatisfaction over the cleanliness issue in their farms. To get an overview of citizens reaction on several issues, the daily Al-Sayassah interviewed a number of them.

The owner of one farm Abdusayed Shabbab complained that the garbage container situated near his farm was overflowing with dead chickens and sheep and despite the terrible smell the garbage collectors have not come by for two weeks.

He praised the efforts of the Ministry of Electricity and Water, however and was particularly pleased that at long last the ministry has fulfilled its pledge and opened the office in time.

Meanwhile, the director of the Agricultural Societies Branch at Wafra Mamoun Ismael said that the office was trying its best to meet all emergency requests.

Reneged promise

Another citizen who refused to give his name complained that the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources had him registered as having 640 palm trees although he has 400 fruit bearing trees. He also complained that the authority had reneged on its promise when it purchased Wafra farmers wheat output at 120 fils per kilogramme while it had promised to purchase the wheat at 250 fils per kilogramme.

Another citizen identified as Mohammed Shareeda, said that he responded to HH the Amir's call to cultivate wheat and put in a lot of work to reclaim 2.5 hectares of land before registering his name for the cultivation of about 8.5 hectares. He complained that he was surprised to see that after he incurred a loss of about KD3500 and his wheat output had amounted to about nine tons the authority compensated him with KD1050 only.

Interest

Khaled Al Mejbai praised the government's support of the agricultural sector in the country which has been embodied by the establishing of an agricultural portfolio at the Kuwait Industrial Bank for the amount of KD50 million. But he claimed that the Industrial Bank had invested the said amount and was charging interest of 2.5 per cent on agricultural loans. He said that if this policy continues it will shall minimise agricultural activities and eventually increase burden of farmers.

He expressed hope that HH the Crown Prince and Premier will intervene to cancel the interest payable. Meanwhile, the daily's reporter noted that there was only a single water pump in the area which has run dry a long while ago. He noted also that a queue of tankers waited to fill up with water.

The reporter also found it strange that quite a few farms in the area lay abandoned and the only structures around were badly built shanties.

Senegal praises Kuwait's mediation

KUWAIT, Sept 18. (Kuna): A Senegalese envoy was quoted here today as stressing his country's appreciation of Kuwait's mediation to solve the dispute between Senegal and Mauritania.

Senegal presidential envoy Seydi Lamine Niace told a Kuwaiti daily that Senegal appreciates and thanks the mediation efforts by HH the Amir HH Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah to solve the Senegalese-Mauritanian problem.

Niace added that they in Senegal, work for peace and welcome the Arab-African unity and solidarity.

He called for finding a solution to the Senegal-Mauritania dispute based on paying compensations to the victims who suffered in recent clashes involving nationals in both countries and drawing a final demarcation line along their common borders.

He noted that Dakar is committed to efforts by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) currently chaired by HH the Amir of Kuwait and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) presently headed by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Hailing Kuwait's policies in both the Arab and Islamic arenas, Niace said that Senegal follow up with great concern what goes on in Kuwait.

He added that they also admire Kuwait's intensive efforts to achieve Afro-Arab and inter-Islamic co-operation, noting that Senegal President Abdou Diouf is very keen on maintaining contacts with HH the Amir in a bid to boost the current co-operation between Kuwait and Senegal.

Role

"Kuwait is playing an active role in the success of the forthcoming Islamic summit conference scheduled to be held in Dakar and to overcome all difficulties which may face the conference," he went on.

Niace expected the outcome of HH the Amir's efforts to be fruitful as the Amir is very well known in Africa for his services for the Third World states.

Meanwhile, ambassadors of Mauritania and Niger as well as the Senegalese charge d'affaires in Kuwait welcomed the upcoming visits by HH the Amir to their countries.

In statements to three Kuwaiti dailies, the diplomats praised the great role played by HH the Amir in his capacity as chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

Mauritanian Ambassador Mohammed Abdel Qader said his country welcomes any ideas proposed by HH in connection with solving the Mauritania-Senegalese problem, stressing the great concern expressed by HH toward the issue.

Lebanese relief campaign begins

Zakat House to aid 2,000 Sudanese orphans

KUWAIT, Sept 18. (Kuna): Director of the International Organisation and head of joint Kuwait Committee for Relief Yousif Al Haji has said that about one million Lebanese had left their homes in Beirut following the recent shelling that targeted residential areas.

He told a press conference last night that signalled the start of a fund-raising campaign for the Lebanese victims, that there are about 300,000 Muslims in need of shelter.

He described the living conditions of the Muslims in Lebanon as extremely miserable as a result of the destructive war.

The cost of salvaging a person is KD12 while the building of five thousand tents, at the price of KD50 each, will cost KD250,000.

He added that the camps need medical and other services which

will cost nearly KD200,000.

He noted that a special committee belonging to the Joint Kuwait Committee for Relief was set up to transfer the donations directly to the victims.

He confirmed that the donations will be in secure hands and will reach those in need, and the surplus, if realised, will be spent on health and future relief projects.

Orphans

Hailing the volume of aid extended by the Kuwaitis and expatriates in Kuwait to the victims of floods and drought during the past years specially in Bangladesh and Sudan, Haji said it was warmly welcomed by poor Muslims.

Meanwhile, the director of Kuwait's Zakat House, Khar-toun, Sudan Branch, Othman Ahmed Al Hajder was quoted as

saying that the house in co-operation with Sudanese charity societies was striving to patronise about 2,000 orphans.

In an interview with the daily Al-Sayassah, Hajder said that the house is carrying out several charitable projects in Sudan such as constructing mosques, schools, clinics and boring of deep wells.

The house is also involved in several seasonal projects such as breakfasts, sacrificial meat and assistance which has been extended to flood victims including the purchase of foodstuff and clothing.

The official denied that Christian missionaries had realised success at the expense of Islamic activities, clarifying that the Zakat House and the other Islamic charitable organisations had achieved significant success in Sudan.

School exam results to be computerised in 1990

AS of next year, all examination results will be computerised and it will be made mandatory for all students to establish their nationalities prior to joining government or private schools.

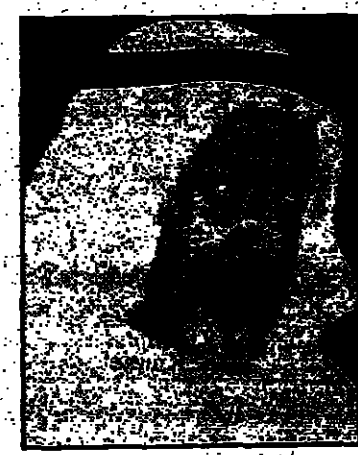
Commenting on this year's examination results, Abdul Rahman Al Khodari, Education Ministry Undersecretary, said that the government is giving top priority to students affairs at all educational levels. In this respect, 260 kindergartens and primary schools had been provided with air-conditioning gifted by HH the Amir.

Speaking to a local daily, the official said that the total number of students amounted to 450,000 and teaching staff 30,000. The ministry has organised special training courses for teachers to be qualified as group-teachers, group principals, and group supervisors.

Any infringements by students upon teachers and vice-versa will be carefully investigated prior to issuing any punitive measures, the official said.

Due to the different privileges offered to students at separate schools, tuition fees varied. Presently, private schools are competing to reduce their rates of tuition fees which provides parents opportunities to freely choose the school best suited to their individual needs.

Reiterating his statement on



Khodari

the air-conditioning of 67 kindergartens and 193 elementary schools, Khodari said that the Ministry of Electricity and Water offered considerable help in providing electricity to these schools. An additional 25 new schools have been constructed since the completion of the current year's operation this year. A further 66 are undergoing radical maintenance and 32 partial facilities.

The Arab Gulf Educational Bureau has covered considerable ground in its effort to unify the subjects of maths and sciences at the intermediate level, and eventually the plan will cover all stages of education. Efforts are currently being exerted to unify

other subjects including Arabic, Islamic religion and social studies.

He pointed out that circulations had already been made within each educational area, and that inter-area circulations were made two weeks before the start of the new academic year to address any bottlenecks occurring during the year.

He said that the external contracting companies had already finished their mission of recruiting overseas teachers. However, as these teachers were late in arriving in the country, the ministry allocated "stand-by" teachers to temporarily fill in the gap. Currently, there is no shortage in the number of teaching staff, the official said.

The ministry has already replaced wooden classrooms in certain areas where the inhabitants were believed to be permanent residents. However, the ministry retained existing wooden classrooms in other areas where the inhabitants were temporarily residing. This is intended to reduce the pressure on schools in the high density areas.

He pointed out that more than 250 wooden classrooms have been replaced with concrete structures and the construction of new urban residential areas and the movement of residents helped alleviate the pressure.

Asians treated harshly at Bahrain's airport

ON a number of occasions it has been reported that Asian expatriates have been victims of both verbal and physical abuse of the hands of members of Bahrain's Airport security staff, while trying to see off relatives as well as receive them on arrival of the main terminal of Bahrain International Airport. Such incidents have been on the rise particularly in recent months. It appears from several reports in the local press in view of a number of complaints from Asians, particularly from the Indian sub-continent, the Asian expatriates are specifically subjected to such harsh and unjust treatment.

Victims have complained of being treated brutally like animals. Apart from excessive use of foul language by security officials, well wishers who had come to the terminal to either see off close relatives or receive them were pushed, kicked and beaten with devices like belts and even walkie-talkies. It has been said that such incidents took place in front of a crowd of witnesses, including non-Asians.

The problem it appears is particularly acute when people arrive at the airport to see relatives or close friends off. According to victims Asians are singled out and not allowed to enter the terminal while no such restrictions apply to nationals and Western expatriates who usually simply walk through the door.

Bahrain airport is currently undergoing major extension work of the main terminal. A large crowd is not encouraged or permitted at the terminal premises so as to not disrupt the extension work, at all hours particularly on week-ends when air traffic is hectic.

According to airport and civil aviation officials reports of discrimination against Asian workers is either false or highly exaggerated in spite of eye witnesses who claim otherwise. However, promises have been made to investigate such incidents. So far no action has been taken in this regard.

The general official comment has been that the bulk of the public who come to the airport are Asians. In spite of repeated requests and warnings not to overcrowd the main terminal, people arrive in large numbers thereby causing general inconvenience to all passengers and airport staff.

"When an Asian passenger leaves Bahrain there are about ten to fifteen people here to see him off. The airport terminal becomes overcrowded and disrupts service. It is also not necessary for so many people to see one person off. We have nothing against Asians. The rules apply to everyone," said one official.

He added that the new terminal once completed will be twice the size of the present one and accommodate more people and serve them better in future. Currently with the work going on the terminal has been reduced to half its original size, he said.

Commenting on the reports of abuse of Asians by airport security, the official said that although there may have been the odd occurrence most of the reports are untrue and give an exaggerated picture of the whole thing.

Meanwhile, last week two Indian men complained of yet another unpleasant experience of the hands of security men. Before they were allowed inside the terminal, hours after much 'pleading' and 'begging', they were verbally and physically assaulted.

New inquiry service for telephone bills soon

THE director of the Collection and Computer Department at the Ministry of Communications Mohammad Al Ragam has said that the ministry is planning to introduce a new computerised public inquiry service to enable subscribers to find out the amount of outstanding payments, after the fashion of the service recently introduced by the Public Authority for Civil Information (PACI).

He told a local daily that the project would go into implementation soon after the endorsement of the related budget, and that it would actively contribute to solving a series of problems resulting from allegations by subscribers of failure by the ministry to inform them of their outstanding telephone bills.

He said that once the new service was operational, the ministry would stop direct calls to subscribers to inform them of their overdue bills and would rely solely on the new service.

Ragam urged all subscribers, citizens and residents, to co-operate positively with the ministry and regularly settle their telephone bills to avoid accumulation of outstanding payments.

In a related development Kuwait's Minister of Public Works Abdulrahman Al Houti said that work at the new telecommunication tower was going ahead in accordance with the relevant programme and is being implemented within schedule.

In an interview with the daily Al-Sayassah, the minister described the project as a tangible civilisation transition in the telecommunication area in Kuwait.

He added that the height of the project in its first stage will be 222 metres and in the second stage, the height will reach 370 metres to be crowned by a steel tower of 60 metres height.

REQUIRE TO RENT

A leading Kuwaiti company requires to rent for a long period, a specified heavy vibrator compactor roller to provide a minimum mass of 35 kg/cm width.

Please contact: Engineer Rafiq on phone 2405523/2406615

CHALLENGING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

An excellent opportunity to build a highly satisfactory career is available for:

SALES PERSON/FEMALE: Will be responsible for selling our products in one of the most prestigious showrooms. Must be a University graduate (preferably in Engineering), dynamic and good looking.

SITE ENGINEER: Will be responsible for supervising the work force at site and co-ordinating with different departments. Must be a University graduate in Engineering with 2-3 years experience and possess a driving licence.

PRODUCTION ENGINEER: Will be responsible for our established production facilities, ensure effective use of labour, tools and equipment. Must be a University graduate in Engineering with 3-5 years experience and possess a driving licence.

Interested persons should call: 5330615 or send detailed C.V. to: P.O. Box 3878 Salmiya 22038 Salmiya, Kuwait

Haroun denies Unesco warning

THE Undersecretary at the Higher Education Ministry Dr Musaed Al Haroun was quoted as saying that the ministry is paying significant concern to recruiting Kuwaiti graduates for appropriate employment. In an interview with 'Al-Afaq' magazine, Haroun said that the ministry will play an active role towards co-ordinating activities among the country's educational institutions in addition to following up of educational plans.

Meanwhile, the undersecretary disclosed that the American Vocations Institutions had appraised the programme of Kuwait University's Faculty of Engineering and described it as excellent. Another specialised committee from UK and USA was entrusted to appraise the level of the Faculty of Education and had described it as distinguished.

Haroun categorically denied that Kuwait University had received many warnings from Unesco. He stressed that the evaluation of universities levels did not fall within the responsibilities of Unesco.

Haroun called for supporting Kuwait's Students National Union to enable it to practice its legitimate role.

Sheep imports healthy

Fishing code to be enforced

THE director of the Fish Resources Department at the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Adnan Al Rshood has said that it will have to adopt strict measures against practices that do not abide by the regulatory code on fishing.

He told a local paper that some fishermen did not commit themselves to stipulations stated in their practice licences, despite recurrent warnings by the authority.

Some owners of cruisers violated the prescribed regulations in pursuit of easy profit. Such violations will ultimately jeopardise national fish resources and undermine fish and shrimp stocks, he said.

Rshood added that fish resources constitute a major part of the national food security strategy, and therefore fishermen who employed illegal fishing methods should not expect leniency of the measures to be taken against them. The official said that claims of being amateurs would not get any violator off the hook as only fishing rods were used by amateurs.

He added that punitive measures to be taken against violators of the fishing code could include revocation of their licences. Further under the provision of the Act issued in 1980 all staff working aboard a fishing boat must have a practice licence and must comply with the fishing techniques stated in these licences. Any fishing practices not author-

ised in the licences will be treated as violations of the code on fishing. Copies of the original practice licence will not be accepted by inspectors commissioned by the department to ensure that fishing boats played by the rules. All owners were urged to keep the original on board.

He reiterated the authority's intention to fully enforce the regulations on fishing and that no leniency is to be expected by violators. Owners of fishing boats are advised to clearly establish numbers on their boats. Failure will also entail punitive measure and legal responsibility.

Meanwhile Faisal Al Khozaim, the Chairman and Managing Director of Kuwait Livestock, Trade and Transport Company was quoted as confirming that the sheep imported by the company from Australia were free of any disease.

In a televised interview broadcast by Kuwait TV, Khozaim described rumours over the spread of epidemic among Australian sheep imported by the company as baseless, clarifying that all veterinary tests carried out by the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources proved that the sheep were devoid of any disease.

He added that Australian sheep constituted an important element towards averting monopolies particularly in the light of high prices of Arab sheep.

Ankara accepts Amir's proposals

Turkish-Bulgarian dispute may be resolved soon

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): The Turkish government today agreed to proposals by HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed for ending the Turkish-Bulgarian dispute over the status of the Turkish Muslim minority in Bulgaria. It was officially announced here.

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed told reporters he received today a message addressed to HH the Amir from Turkish President Kenan Evren carrying Turkey's consent on the

recent Amiri proposals on the dispute.

Sheikh Sabah emphasised that among the proposals, agreed upon by Turkey, was the convening in Kuwait of a high-level meeting for Turkish and Bulgarian officials. He said the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry had already started contacts with the Bulgarian side to determine the level and the date of the meeting.

Kuna learnt that the Turkish message to HH the Amir was conveyed through diplomatic channels and that a

preparatory meeting bringing together Turkish and Bulgarian foreign ministers could be held under the auspices of Kuwait.

Messages

The ministerial meeting might be crowned by a summit between President Evren and Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov in the presence of HH the Amir.

HH the Amir had visited both Bulgaria and Turkey early this month while en route

back home from the recent 9th non-aligned summit within HH's endeavours for reaching a peaceful settlement of the Turkish-Bulgarian dispute.

Last month, the Amir despatched the Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference Dr Hamid Al Ghabad and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister's Undersecretary Suleiman Majid Al Shaker to Ankara and Sofia where they delivered two messages on the dispute from HH the Amir to Turkish and Bulgarian leaders.

Average Kuwaiti family has 9.57 members: study

44.4pc are under 15

THE Ministry of Planning is offering planning data, general information and data about population in particular, according to Dr Abdul Hadi Al Awadi, undersecretary at the Ministry of Planning and general co-ordinator of the coming five-year-plan (1990-1994) - 1994-1995 said.

A study prepared by the ministry focuses on features of the population mix in Kuwait and indicates that these data and information can help in formulating policies that can achieve the ambitions of Kuwait and its long term development strategy that centres on building of the Kuwaiti man.

The study pointed out that by the end of 1988, the number of Kuwaiti families totalled 70,325 comprising 672,186 persons. This figure also includes 137,359 expatriates working for these families in various categories such as maids, servants, drivers, farmers and babysitters.

The average Kuwaiti family has 9.57 members. About 15 per cent of these families consist of more than 15 members. In general about 35.3 per cent of Kuwaiti families consist of more than ten members. Speaking about expatriate families, the study said that there are two kinds, private and collective. Private families number 174,172 consisting of 956,476 members while collective families are 39,720 and consist of 286,672

persons, including 60.8 per cent non-Arabs. The average private family consists of 6.7 persons. Above 57 per cent of these families consist of less than 5 persons and 35 per cent range between six to 10 persons.

The collective families are those which consist of persons who have no blood relation in general. The average of each of these families is 7.2. Most members of the collective families are expatriates except for a few Kuwaitis.

Educational standards
The study showed that the percentage of illiteracy among Kuwaitis is only 14.4 per cent against 16.6 per cent among non-Kuwaitis. 64.7 per cent of Kuwaitis and 54.9 per cent of non-Kuwaitis get educational certificates under the Secondary School Certificate. 6.6 per cent of Kuwaitis and 8.1 per cent of expatriates hold university degrees.

The study pointed out that 44.4 per cent of Kuwaitis are under 15 years of age and 3.6 per cent of Kuwaitis are over 60 years old. 52 per cent of Kuwaitis are between 19 and 59 years of age and form the Kuwaiti manpower. The study added that 30.6 per cent of expatriates are under 15 years of age and 2 per cent are over 60 years old. About 67.4 per cent of expatriates are between 15 and 59 years and form 98 per cent of expatriate manpower.

The study pointed out that national manpower forms 55.4 per cent of Kuwaiti population (citizens over 15 years are considered part of national manpower) total 112,689 of whom 109,856 are working. The rest are students, retired employees or housekeepers. The expatriate manpower is 69.3 per cent of total population of expatriates (over 15 years old). They reached 685,560 persons and about 679,328 are working. The study showed that Kuwaiti manpower is forms only 21.1 per cent of total manpower in Kuwait. The study described this percentage as reasonable because 44.4 per cent of Kuwaiti population are out of national manpower because they are under 15 years of age and some others are studying.

Manpower

The study pointed out that Kuwaitis are distributed in equal percentage over four governorates: Capital, Hawalli, Ahmadi and Farwaniya where about 21.4 per cent to 23.2 per cent of the population of Kuwaitis are living. Only 10.6 per cent live in Jahra governorate. But more than 30 per cent of expatriates are living in Hawalli governorate, 27.1 per cent in Farwaniya governorate, 15.3 per cent in Ahmadi, 14.2 per cent in Jahra and 12.6 per cent in the Capital.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri cables

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): HH the Amir today sent a cable of congratulations to Sultan Azlan Muhiuddin Shah on the occasion of his coronation as paramount ruler of Malaysia.

HH the Amir also sent a congratulatory message to the president of Chile on the occasion of his country's national day.

Mauritanian envoy

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): The Amiri Diwan Undersecretary received at his office in Bayan Palace today the Ambassador of Mauritania to Kuwait for a discussion on preparations of HH the Amir's visit to his country.

Premier receives

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah received at his Diwan in Bayan Palace today Minister of the Interior Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Othman, Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamed, Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhari Abdullah Al Othman, Member of the Higher Housing Council Khaled Al Essa Al Saleh, Editor-in-Chief of Al Watan newspaper Jassem Mohammed Al Mutawa, and Chairman of Co-operative Societies Ali Salem Abu Haddida.

HH also received a number of citizens at the public diwan.

Chad minister

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): Chad's Foreign Minister Sheikh Bilal Omar arrived in Kuwait tomorrow for talks with the country's senior officials on bilateral links and joint Islamic action. It was officially announced here today.

Sabah meets

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today received Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah and Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Ahmed Al Sabah who took leave for Paris to inaugurate the "Kuwait in France" exhibit.

The cultural event will mark the visit of HH the Amir to France later this month.

Sheikh Sabah later received Information Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Mohammed Jaafar who has just returned from Tunis where he headed Kuwait's delegation to a meeting of Arab broadcast stations.

Nawaf receives

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber today received in his office the Czech Chief of Staff and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting the Czech official delivered a message from his country's defence minister to Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber.

The Army Chief of Staff Major General Mazad Al Sanea and the Czech ambassador to Kuwait attended the meeting.

Draft bill

The authorities have recently finalised the draft bill establishing the Public Authority for Youth and Sports, a local daily reported.

It added that the new authority will be proclaimed next month following the "Friendship and Peace Tournament" which is scheduled to take place in Kuwait during October and will witness the participation of 44 Islamic countries.

Meanwhile, the daily said that it is expected that Kuwait's Minister of Social Affairs and Labour will chair the board of directors of the authority and its director-general will hold the rank of undersecretary.

Free parking

THE General Traffic Department has reportedly decided to allocate special parking stalls for sedans at no charge on certain main streets during Fridays and official holidays.

The department has also given orders to traffic policemen to issue tickets to all parked cars exceeding the one-hour grace to give an opportunity to other people to park their cars.



Army chiefs of staff

Kuwait Army Chief of Staff, Major-General Mezyad Abdul Rahman Al Sanea received at his office yesterday morning first deputy chief of staff of Czechoslovakia and the accompanying delegation. Both sides exchanged mutual talks and viewed issues of joint concern.

Computerised trading system

Moves afoot to enhance stock exchange trading

A NEW computerised trading system will be introduced to the Kuwait Stock Market in the first half of next year which will facilitate traders in the trading hall to get instantaneous quotes on shares.

Speaking on the Kuwaiti Stock Exchange scene, Hisham Al Otaibi, director general of Kuwait Stock Exchange, ruled out the possibilities of a repetition of the Manakh crash in the Kuwait Stock Exchange due to the present system and rule adopted to govern and monitor dealings.

The Manakh crash took place in 1982 and involved several billions of Kuwaiti dinars — mainly in post-dated deals. Though, post-dated trading has been greatly restricted, concerned authorities are exerting extensive efforts to complete new rules and regulations for restoring post-dated trading in the official market. The measures to be instituted will be announced shortly.

He went on to say that at present, there are more floating stocks available than buyers, a situation where sellers outnumber buyers. This is mainly attributed to the effects of the Iran-Iraq war and other factors. When there are more sellers than buyers, prices tend to be depressed. However, the bourse administration is more concerned in seeing a larger turnover in deals, rather than an increase in prices. The latter will ensure that there is increased liquidity, Otaibi said.

According to available figures, shares worth over KD1 billion were traded in a year. There are, however, millions of shares of firms that are not actively traded in the stock market. Citing an example, Otaibi said that there are 770 million shares offered for trading by the National Bank, but actual

daily trade is restricted to less than one million shares. This dismal turnover is not conducive to a healthy stock market atmosphere. The government owns a large number of shares presently, but does not want to disturb market trends by offering the majority for sale. The government is entering the market in a calculated manner which is designed to ensure stability.

Otaibi disclosed that the Kuwait bourse has admitted into the parallel market a number of Gulf companies and is currently engaged in studying the position of several other Gulf companies prior to accepting their registration.

The stock market administration is imposing strict supervision on offices of brokers in the market and any establishment that exceeds limits and violated the rules will be severely punished, the official said.

About four to five companies will enter the parallel market and its financial data will be published before officially registering them. Otaibi said that a number of foreign companies had applied for registration in the Kuwait Stock Market. But, these companies will have to fulfill a number of conditions and comply with the local rules before their registrations are accepted.

Otaibi said that the Kuwait law allows only Kuwaitis and GCC citizens to own Kuwaiti companies shares, according to a decision issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. However, he clarified that investment funds to be opened shortly will be open to all and expatriates living in Kuwait can invest in them.

From the courts

Trade mark application refused

THE Ministry of Commerce and Industry refused an application to register a trade mark of one of the national establishments. This decision was subsequently upheld by the Administrative Court.

The trade mark was refused by the Commercial Registration Department at the ministry due to the fact that it resembles an already existing trade mark in the local market.

Traffic accidents

ONE man died when he was knocked down by a car in the Salmiya area and nine persons were reported in separate accidents reported in the country. There were 22 road accidents in different governorates; four were reported in the Capital, two in Hawalli, 12 in Ahmadi and four in Jahra.

Building contract cancelled

A CITIZEN who bought a residential building for an amount of KD441,000 filed a case for cancellation of the contract and refund of the amount paid.

According to the plaintiff, the seller had not indicated the fact that the licence of the building stated that it was granted to house eight flats. The plaintiff submitted that the landlord without official permission had sub-divided the flats into two each.

On approaching the Municipality to have the flats registered in his name, he was informed that permission could not be granted as the building had violated the terms of the licence.

Two years for illicit sex

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man and a woman to two years imprisonment each with labour and ordered their deportation from Kuwait for having an illicit relationship. The court was told that the woman was working as a maid and the employer got suspicious when the maid did not wake up in the morning. He was told that she was sick.

At hospital, he was informed that the maid was suffering the after effects of an abortion. As the maid did not leave Kuwait for two years and she married in her home country, she confessed to her employer that she had a relationship with a driver next door. A second maid at the same house also told the employer that she saw the man coming several times to the maid's room and they had made love several times. The man also confessed making love to the maid at night by jumping over the fence. The court was convinced that the two had an illicit relationship and as both were married in their own countries, the court sentenced them to 2 years imprisonment each to be followed by deportation.

Road-work aimed at upgrading services

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): Public Works Minister Abdul Rahman Al Houti asserted that present construction and renovation work on Kuwait's roads and highways aimed at upgrading services and bringing comfort to people.

He pointed out that those maintenance and repair operations, though leading to sufferings and troubles due to ensuing traffic jams in densely populated areas, were a necessity to boost public services rendered to inhabitants.

Interviewed by Kuna, Houti stated that the government has been aware of the hardships faced by citizens and residents due to those construction works, stressing that the operations were temporary, hoping that patience and co-operation would prevail on both popular and official levels to help accomplish them.

The public works minister indicated that the construction was inevitable as some areas were complaining from old networks of water, electricity and sewage systems which had to be repaired.

He said other newly-built residential areas were lacking such basic services a matter that prompted the current digging works in various sites in Kuwait.

Houti cited the Amiri wish for greening and beautification of the country, to provide satisfaction and comfort to the people, as another factor in current extensive reconstruction operations.

He underscored that the constructions fall within continued reform plans which constitute part of Kuwait's developmental march.

KAC will fly to KL from Dec 2: Mashaan

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) will inaugurate a new route to Kuala Lumpur, capital of Malaysia, via Bangkok on Saturday Dec 2nd with a one weekly flight.

Ghazi Al Mashaan, KAC deputy director general for commercial affairs, told Kuna the inauguration of the new route was a part of a new KAC marketing strategy aimed at further expansion in the Far East, Europe and North America.

Mashaan said KAC had decided to increase frequencies to Bangkok and Manila in its winter schedule starting from November 1st, 1989.

"Weekly frequencies to Bangkok," he added "will be increased from three to four flights and a third flight will be operated to Manila."

Mashaan pointed out that KAC's marketing plans were devised taking into consideration short and medium term expectations.

"Our studies have revealed that traffic growth rates in East Asia are showing an optimistic trend especially on Bangkok and Manila," Mashaan said.

"In this view," he added "we have decided to increase our frequencies on these two sectors during the winter."

Paci data confidential, says Shayji

THE Director-General of Public Authority for Civil Information (Paci) Faisal Al Shayji has confirmed the soundness and confidentiality of the data maintained with the authority pertaining to the country's Civil Registration System.

In an interview with a local daily, the official was quoted as saying that the authority was keen to preserve the confidentiality of information of citizens and expatriates. Relevant laws protect this issue and any fears over revealing of any information is unjustified.

He denied that the new Automated Inquiries Service System provided both in English and Arabic could be utilised for obtaining secret information about the others. He clarified that the authority guarantees the confidentiality of this system and would like to assure all concerned that the information will be given only to the bearer of the civil number.

The data to be extended according to the new system will be limited and will contain only pertinent information related to the renewal of the civil identify card and the place of delivery, the official said.

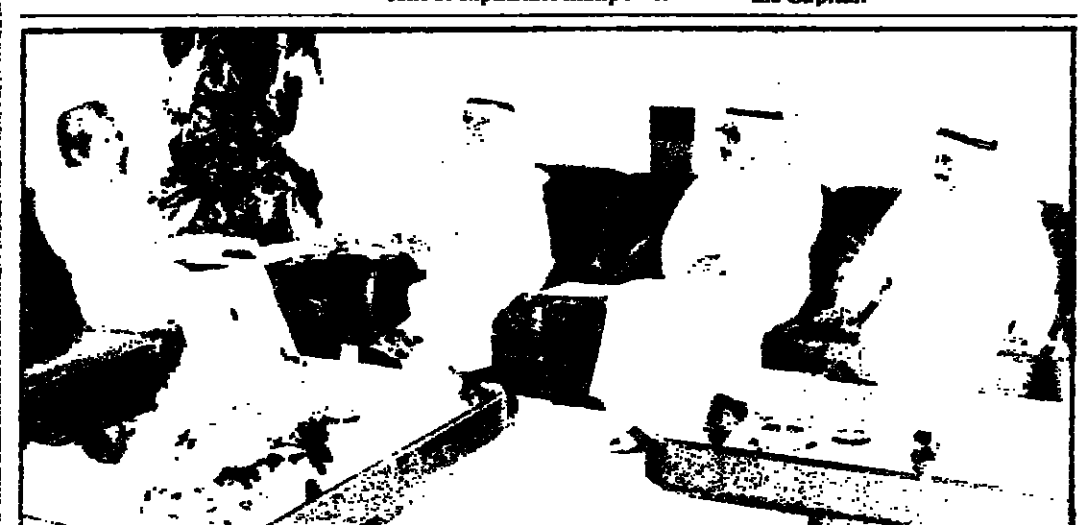
Furthermore, Shayji said that the new system has been provided with the necessary technology designed to inform the department concerned about any misuse or attempts to tamper with the apparatus.

New premises

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): Health Ministry Undersecretary for Services Affairs Yousef Al Ateeqi expects the inauguration of the ministry's new premises next February.

Ateeqi told Kuna the total cost of the new building which was started late 1982, reached KD7,750,000 million.

The premises covers an area of 17,132 square metres.



Industry ministers confer

Visiting Mauritius' Industry Minister Clarel Malherbe yesterday conferred with Trade and Industry Minister Faisal Al Khaleel on ways of boosting bilateral co-operation in various spheres.

Malherbe, during the meeting which was attended by senior ministry officials, briefed Minister Al Khaleel on the outcome of his current talks with other Kuwaiti officials.

He said that his visit to the Gulf region was to inform its people about opportunities of investments and tourism in his country.

Haji commends Palestine relief

Half million dollars allocated

THE chairman of the Islamic International Charity Organisation Yousef Al Haji has commended the positive response to the food aid project directed for the West Bank and Gaza Strip in occupied Palestine, which started early this month.

He told a local daily that half a million dollars had been allocated by the UNRWA organisation to fund this project. The organisation is paying great attention to all Muslim causes around the world, and the Palestinian cause came first due to the distinct value of the Aqsa Mosque in the hearts of Muslims throughout the world.

A special committee has been formed to support the struggle of Palestinians under Israeli occupation, and the decision to form this committee was taken in response to the tragic situation of the Palestinian people and the oppressive Israeli practices and inhuman policy, Haji said.

Food aid

Under the food aid project KD3 would be paid to each Palestinian individual for food supplies lasting for one month. This is intended to help "children of stones" to continue their blessed uprising against the enemy.

Parcels of food were under the project delivered to the Palestinians in occupied Palestine through UNRWA, in co-ordination with the Palestine Charity Committee.

Contributions and donations to fund this project are invited from individuals, establishments, companies, ministries and all government and private concerns alike, Haji said.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the South East Asia Committee at the Kuwait Society for the Revival of Islamic Heritage Abdul Latif Al Ghareeb has said the Islamic hospital project currently being constructed in the Indonesian province of Al Tegal is considered one of the major projects by the committee.

He told a local daily that the project is accorded top attention by the society as it supports medical and health services to poor Indonesian areas, where the Muslim population density is high.

The project site area is 14,000 square metres and the hospital upon completion will provide various medical services including surgery, internal medicine, gynaecology, maternity, ICU, emergencies, radiology, eye, ear, nose and throat clinics, Ghareeb said.

He urged people to extend financial help to support this project and other charity projects undertaken by the committee in the interest of Muslims all over the world.

Bahrain airport undergoing expansion

A BD 26 million plan has been designed by the Bahraini Civil Aviation Department for expansion of Bahrain Airport and establishing some important utilities.

A report published by the Bahraini Civil Aviation Department indicated that the first stage of the new passenger station project will be operated next year followed by the implementation of the second stage of the project at the beginning of 1991.

The project will cover requirements until the twenty first century. The designed annual capacity for the new passenger building is 10 million passengers according to the plan.

Another building including the latest design for the civil aviation industry including all anticipated services and facilities that exist at any of the international airports.

The report pointed out that in addition to the industrial feature of the airport, a special plan is currently being designed intended to establish a wide area covering a duty free shopping facility within airport limits. The report stressed that these developments represent a clear picture on Bahrain's role as a gate to the Middle East.

Gulf Air and Bahrain Airport Services Company are planning to implement large scale projects aimed at establishing their headquarters and main offices at Bahrain International Airport.

Two pronged testing for vehicles

HEAD of the Technical Testing Section of the Capital Governorate Traffic Department, Major Saleh Al Najem stressed that an average of 1,500 vehicles are tested at the four governorates technical testing sections daily. He said that the number of tested vehicles increases at the beginning and end of the summer season.

Najem stated that in the past technical vehicle testing were conducted only on electrical and mechanical conditions. Officers were not ordered to take the chassis number which is considered as the vehicle's birth certificate. He indicated that upon obtaining the chassis number of vehicles at current technical testing procedures many cases were detected where chassis numbers had been changed and the owners of these vehicles were referred to concerned authorities.

The four governorates technical testing centres are divided into the

regular testing sections, initial testing sections and the environment and legal standards section specialising in testing a vehicle's pollution level.

Regarding security and quality conditions of vehicles, Najem said that all vehicles should pass through two stages at technical testing, the first stage will check the number of the chassis and then the second stage to ensure vehicles safety and quality conditions. The Technical Testing Department ensures that all tested cars are void of chemical converters due to the fact that these converters are only used at countries using unleaded fuel.

He indicated that 10 per cent of traffic accidents are caused by mechanical problems and added that the life span of vehicles in Kuwait is short compared with other Western countries due to weather conditions.

REQUIRED

DRIVER

Full time

With transferable residence

Tel. 2647636/2647637/2611806

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

ANYTHING that makes noise is satisfactory to a crowd
— Charles Dickens, English novelist (1812 - 1870)

OPINION

Invading forces suffer ignominy

SINCE the Second World War, history is replete with examples of invading forces collapsing with the disintegration of their respective regimes or they collapsed due to civil wars raging within the country invaded.

It is a fact that an invading army ultimately returns to its country as a loser when there is resistance. A case in point is that of Hitler who committed suicide because his forces failed to repel or face the determined resistance of the people they had invaded. Hitler's forces returned to see the end of the dictator and to further see of all his "coterie" killed or sent to jail. These invading forces returned home and paid for the consequences of their war crimes. Leaders and symbols of Hitler's Germany have gone down in history designated as "war criminals."

The world that suffered from the ravages of Hitler's armies divided Germany which termed itself the "Great Power." The criminals of war who waged the Second World War are still being chased — a fitting and natural end to all invading forces.

The US failed in Vietnam and the US Army returned leading to the fall of the US president; several high-ranking American officers brought before courts of American public opinion and till now the US speaks about its soldiers killed or missing in action in the Vietnam war. The Soviet Union also suffered the same consequences when it invaded Afghanistan.

The Soviet Army returned damning the leadership that ordered it to invade a country which resisted the Soviet occupation. About two million Afghans accepted martyrdom to expel the Soviets though the USSR is considered a great power — albeit a poor country. This is a natural end to invading armies that kill and slaughter innocent people.

The leaders of such regimes usually reach a disgraceful end. That's the fate of invaders.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Afghan refugees

Two-way traffic

AFGHANISTAN recently has become a two-way street for refugees of the 10-year-old civil war.

Officials estimate 250,000 mostly poor residents of Kabul, scared by rocket attacks and battered by steeply rising prices, have fled in the past six months. There also has been a surge of refugees struggling back from Pakistan in recent weeks.

In a country with porous borders and no central authority, officials cannot track the flow.

"We can't tell if more people are coming or going," said Reinout Wanrooy, local director of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

It is not just the poor fleeing Kabul. Long lines outside the Indian embassy indicate those with means also want out. Diplomats said the embassy has issued visas for about 25,000 people this year.

But in poor neighbourhoods, residents confirm a noticeable drop in population. UN officials estimate 20,000 to 40,000 leave monthly.

"Sure, people are leaving," said Mohammed, a government employee living in Khair Khana. The neighbourhood has been a frequent target of the almost-daily rocket attacks since June that have killed more than 300 people and wounded over 700.

"Not only because of the rockets, but winter is coming and there are not enough supplies. Everybody wants to leave," he said.

The memory of long bread lines last winter still sting. Now, lines outside gas stations for cooking fuel that start forming around 2 am cast doubt on government statements that winter supplies are in stock. Government officials admit a lack of tanker trucks is creating problems.

At dawn, the bus stations to the north and east are packed. Those not fleeing to Pakistan are often headed back to farms.

In the north, peace in the main agricultural belt along the border with the Soviet Union means fewer rockets and cheaper food. To the east lies Pakistan.

"If you pay a lot of money, you can be smuggled to Pakistan," Wanrooy said.

The city's population is believed to have dropped to below 2 million — still well above 700,000 level at the start of the war. The government is not eager to talk about the outflow.

"This is the Ministry of Repatriation. We are not responsible for those leaving," Deputy Minister Khalil Jallal said.

But he is happy to discuss the upsurge of hundreds of returnees in past weeks. He said 12,776 refugees had come back through official repatriation centres since March.

Many returning to rebel-controlled areas avoid official channels, so the real number is estimated around 100,000.

"The devil deceived us," Bibigul Gholamammet says in discussing why she fled to Pakistan with 18 family members in 1983. "He told us we could find a quiet life there.... it was dusty, windy. We could not find food."

Now the 45-year-old woman is back, collecting food from a United Nations programme at the Kabul refugee centre.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1656 — British fleet under Robert captures Spanish treasure ships off Cadiz, Spain.
- 1668 — John II (John Casimir) abdicates as king of Poland.
- 1799 — Austro-Russian Army is defeated by British at Bergen-Op-Zoom in Holland.
- 1870 — French surrender Versailles to Germans in Franco-Prussian war.
- 1898 — British force under Horatio Kitchener reaches Fashoda in the Sudan.
- 1934 — Bruno Richard Hauptmann is arrested in New York and charged with kidnapping baby of US aviation pioneer Charles Lindbergh.
- 1941 — Germans take Kiev in Soviet Union in World War II.
- 1955 — Argentina's President Juan Peron is ousted from office after revolts by Army and Navy.
- 1962 — China announces it has shelved plans to turn nation into an industrial power within a few years.
- 1968 — Czech Foreign Minister Jiri Hajek resigns under Soviet pressure.
- 1971 — Outgoing UN Secretary-General U Thant pleads with world organization to grant his successor more power.
- 1972 — Israeli diplomat is killed and another injured when letter bomb explodes at Israeli embassy in London.
- 1978 — Egypt's cabinet approves unanimously President Anwar Sadat's Camp David agreement to sign peace treaty with Israel within three months.
- 1988 — Government of Poland's Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner resigns after criticism of its management of the economy.

India backing the losing side

Sri Lankans show outrage over forced conscription

INDIA plans to end its military adventure in north-eastern Sri Lanka by leaving behind an Indian-trained Tamil Army it hopes can resist an expected onslaught by both Sri Lankan forces and Tamil Tiger separatists.

But the scheme seems doomed to failure because of public outrage over the forced conscription this summer of thousands of young Tamils for the Indian-backed group, the latest armed contingent to be hurled into Sri Lanka's ethnic unrest.

The conscriptions apparently were a last-ditch effort by India to preserve the remnants of a peace plan it has tried for two years to impose in northeast Sri Lanka at a cost of 1,000 men lost in combat against the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, or LTTE.

Indeed, the Indian government is now using militants as surrogates to perpetuate its foreign policy, but it appears to be backing the losing side.

Experts assume that India will arm the press-ganged Tamils, but the survival of its surrogates is hardly assured when Indian forces leave. India says it will withdraw its troops by Dec 31 if the LTTE disarm.

To the untutored eye, the Indian-backed Tamils appear to be no match for the Tigers, who, for all their ruthlessness, are widely perceived as the defenders of the Tamil people.

The forced conscriptions began this summer while the Sri Lankan government was negotiating a June 28 ceasefire with the Tigers. The militants are thought to have been reduced to about 1,500 fighters by India's 60,000-strong force after they rejected India's peace plan and refused to disarm.

Residents of Batticaloa, 190 miles (305 km) east of the capital of Colombo, reported that Indian soldiers declared curfews and systematically sealed off sections of the coastal city during June and July.

Militants of the Indian-backed Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, or EPRLF, then moved in and rounded up all able-bodied males, a tactic repeated through much of the northeast, according to residents and other observers with direct knowledge of the operations.

"It was a panic reaction," Sam Tumbimutti, who represents the Eelam People's Front in parliament, said of the forced conscription. "If the Tigers and the government make a deal and the other groups do not strengthen themselves, they would be committing suicide."

"Everybody looks after their own interests, but nobody looks after the public interest," he said. "Only God can save the Tamil people."

Western aid workers said many of the men rounded up were released after their names were recorded, but about 7,000 were taken into jungle training camps run by the Indian-supported Eelam People's Front.

More than 1,200 Tamils — ranging in age from 13 to about 50 — fled to Colombo when the forced conscription got under way, taking advantage of the food, shelter and security offered by the very government their group had been fighting for six years.

"If it is proved that we are LTTE supporters, we are shot," said one 17-year-old, whose parents purchased his release from a training camp. "Otherwise, we must join the EPRLF."

The conscriptions bring to a full circle India's involvement in Sri Lanka's civil war, in which New Delhi has performed as meddler, militarist, peacemaker and imperial power.

Former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi became piqued during the early 1980s at President Junius Jayewardene's success in resuscitating Sri Lanka's moribund economy by using liberal free-market reforms.

The Sri Lankan leader declared his hopes to join Asean, the group of South East Asian Nations that has close links with the West, and was reportedly courting the United States to lease to the US Navy a base at eastern Trincomalee, the world's second largest natural harbour after Pearl Harbour in Hawaii.

When the Tamil rebellion erupted full-scale in July 1983, Indira Gandhi offered sanctuary to Tamil militants in India's southern Tamil Nadu state, home to 55 million Indian Tamils, which lies just 50 miles (80 km) across the narrow Palk Straits dividing the nations.

Although India still officially maintains it never armed the separatists, Indira Gandhi sanctioned the training and arming of the various groups, both by the Indian military and by the Research and Analysis Wing, India's version of the US Central Intelligence Agency.

India's motives apparently were twofold: to thwart Colombo's assertions of sovereignty in South Asia, where India considered itself the regional power, and to be viewed as a defender of the Tamils in Tamil Nadu.

Its participation increased in mid-1987, when the Sri Lankan Army scored victories, thereby confronting India with the possible defeat of its policy and widespread anti-government fallout in Tamil Nadu.

Then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi presented Jayewardene with a fait accompli: the July 29, 1987, peace accord.

The pact involved granting some autonomy to the Tamil areas to provide them with national independence from Sri Lanka, whose discriminatory policies had originally sparked the rebellion.

It was accompanied by a memorandum under which Sri Lanka acceded to India's strategic demands, largely by pledging that no third power could use Trincomalee without consulting India.

India's success in bringing Sri Lanka under its strategic umbrella crumbled when the LTTE rebels, who had not been consulted during the negotiations, rejected the scheme and took up arms against their erstwhile teachers in October 1987.

Since then, some 1,000 Indian soldiers have been killed and 3,000 injured in combat. The fighting has also reduced the defiant militant group to perhaps 2,000 fighters, but observers hold they are still more than a match for the EPRLF.

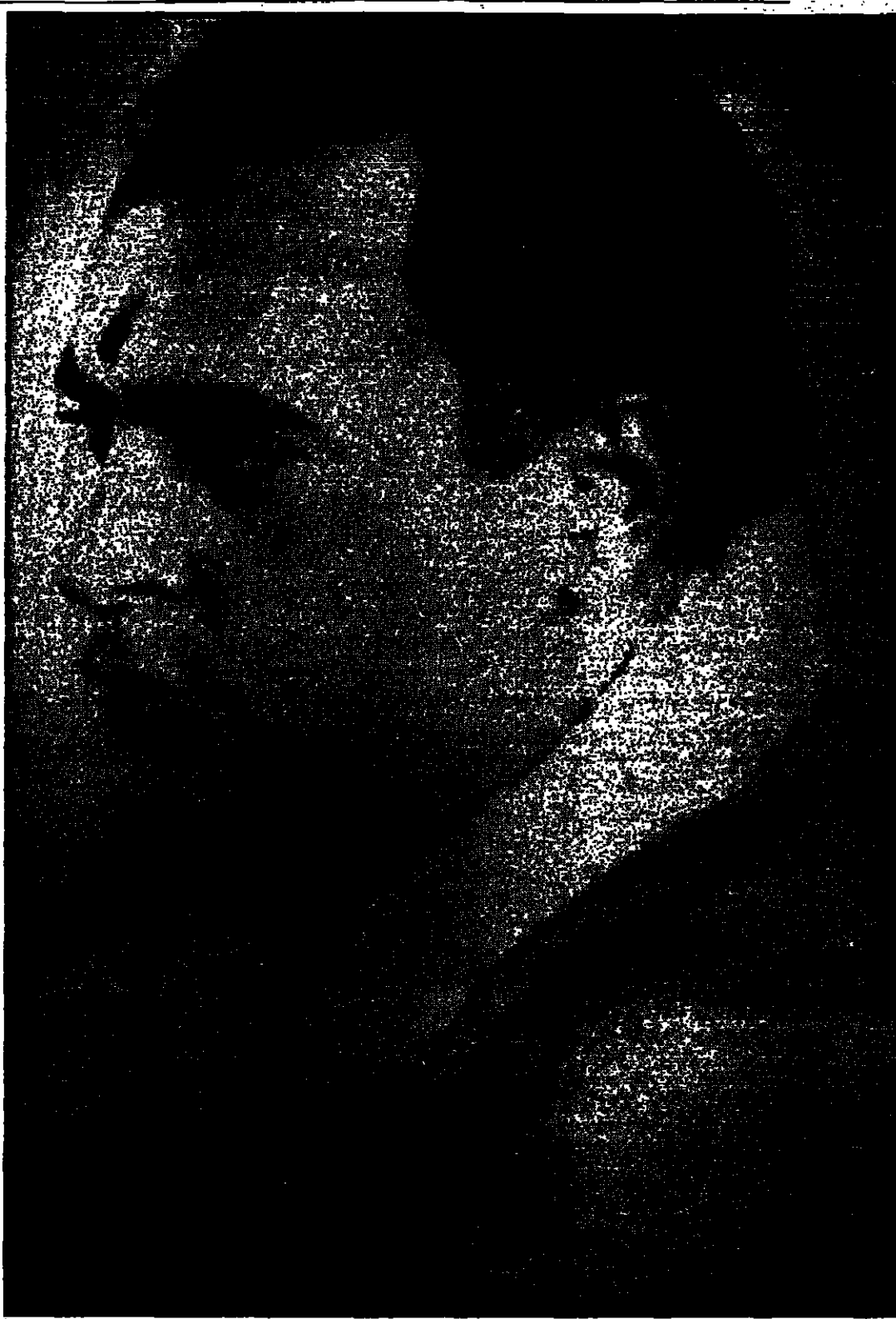
In elections last year that were widely viewed as fraudulent, the EPRLF won control of northeastern province's governing council. The EPRLF are largely perceived as Indian-installed lackeys, and accounts of undisciplined EPRLF conduct are numerous.

"The EPRLF are a political party, but their base is hooliganism," one Batticaloa resident said. "Three days ago, they came into my house with guns and declared that they were going to borrow my video recorder. This is typical."

In a jungle on Batticaloa's outskirts, five new EPRLF fighters were shepherded through a training mission by 10 Indian soldiers.

The new recruits displayed little readiness as they traipsed through the undergrowth, their rifles slung over their shoulders as they puffed cigarettes.

"It is just a question of motivation," an Indian officer said, with a clear lack of conviction. "They are all of the same stock," he said, referring to both Tamil groups.



Rajiv Gandhi: ending adventure

Cats and Tigers have their kill

THE savagery of the Black Cats and Green Tigers is adding a new chapter to the violent story of Sri Lankan politics.

Right wing death squads operating under such names daily assassinate suspected members of the People's Liberation Front guerrilla group, which itself is accused of killing more than 3,000 people during a two-year-old rebellion.

The death toll on this Indian Ocean of 16 million people currently averages about 30 a day. More than half the bodies are found charred beyond recognition, a hallmark of the death squads.

Diplomats say the squads have direct or indirect links to security forces fighting the Marxist guerrilla group, which is known by its Sinhalese initials JVP.

"Their ruthless strategy appears to be paying off because the JVP cannot now automatically count on people following its orders," a Western diplomat said.

One taxi driver agreed. "I fear the security forces more than JVP," he said simply.

The London-based human rights organisation Amnesty International has blamed government forces for a "rising tide of killings, disappearances, torture and arbitrary detentions."

"Army personnel have been seen raiding houses and taking youths away at random — their bodies or limbs were later found by the roadside, on pyres of burning tyres of floating in rivers," it said in a statement last month.

Asking Colombo to halt the violence, Amnesty said: "Government-backed paramilitary groups operating in civilian clothes and unmarked cars are also cited as responsible for extra-judicial executions, disappearances and torture."

The government denies the military is involved with underground militias and blames the brutal killings on subversives, its synonym for the JVP. Rebel supporters insist the security forces are to blame.

The JVP wants the government's resignation and the withdrawal from Sri Lanka of Indian troops sent here two years ago to help implement an Indo-Sri Lankan pact aimed at ending a Tamil rebellion in the north and east.

As the carnage continues, government and opposition politicians warn that Sri Lanka could become a cemetery.

"The country is slowly turning into a mass graveyard with corpses everywhere," opposition leader Dinesh Gunawardene said.

"We will soon drown in our own blood," said Labour and Social Affairs Minister Ranjit Attapattu.

The Sri Lankan cabinet appears divided on the tactic of fighting fire with fire.

Minister of Plantation Industries Gamini Dissanayake said this month that there was no excuse for violence.

But Foreign Minister and Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne told Parliament earlier: "There cannot be any more compassion. (The security) forces will relentlessly go after the terrorists and eliminate them."

Diplomats said violence reached new heights after the JVP warned members of the security forces last month that their families would be attacked if they did not resign.

Leaflets distributed by right wing vigilantes said deaths on a bigger scale awaited the families of rebels. "Twelve of yours for every one of us," was the chilling message.

"Luckily we're nowhere near that ratio, but the death rate is very, very high," a diplomat said.

Wijeratne said the guerrillas had miscalculated by threatening to kill the families of servicemen. "We will go after them because they have to be eradicated," he said.

Violence has ebbed and flowed in Sri Lanka since April 1971 when a JVP attempt to overthrow the government was crushed and about 10,000 people were killed in weeks of fighting (Colombo — Reuters)

Killing power

SIR: At present there are 2,500 tons of explosives for every man, woman and child on this planet, according to KTV II programme "Nuclear Age". If only this money had been better utilized, how much better this world of ours would have been today.

The turmoil in Palestine, Lebanon, Korea, Germany, Ireland, India, Sri Lanka, etc. are only leading to the loss of innocent lives. Who are these people who kill? Do they not have loved ones of their own? Can anything replace the loss of a loved one? When will we realise that we are all earthlings and live in peace. Do we need an alien invasion before we stop bickering among ourselves.

John M. C. Britto,
Safat.

Rule needs review

SIR: Recently, I rented an accommodation which my friend vacated. He had a telephone in this place without IDD facility. I wanted to retain the telephone, therefore, I applied to the concerned authorities to transfer the same phone in my name. I was taken aback when I had to pay KD30 as

installation charges, KD15 for 'IDD facility' removal and KD30 as security (of course, refundable). I do not understand why should I have been charged for the installation and for the disconnection of the IDD facility. If it is a rule, it needs a review and reconsideration.

In addition, the procedure to transfer the telephone is so lengthy and cumbersome that it takes three to four hours of running from one place to another. I am sure it can be made much simpler and easier.

Umesh Chandra Sharma,
Safatya.

Improve landscape

SIR: It is now very convenient having a gas station in Safwa and it has obviously been built at a great cost to KNPC to a very high standard.

The sad fact is that it appears there is no government legislation that outlines a percentage of the building costs should be spent on landscaping.

The outside area designated for planting is a disgrace. The residents of Safwa deserve better landscape.

Ivor Lupin,
Safat.

Scourge of India

Corruption in villages

BADAIN, wearing a sweat-soiled T-shirt, shorts and a frown, sat on his haunches repairing a millstone under the blazing Indian sun.

If things had worked out, the 35-year-old villager would by now have been his own boss instead of working on a local landlord's farm for five rupees a day (30 cents).

But corruption, feudalism and discrimination based on caste — the scourge of India for centuries — in Badain's home in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh have combined to dash his hopes of becoming independent.

Uttar Pradesh is the most coveted prize in Indian parliamentary elections due by the end of the year. Its 112 million people elect 85 of the 545 members of parliament, the largest number by any state and traditionally the Uttar Pradesh winter rules the country.

Five of India's six prime ministers since independence in 1947 have come from Uttar Pradesh.

Ahead of the elections politicians cast a covetous eye on Uttar Pradesh constituencies, promising roads, canals, drinking water, easy bank loans and jobs. Few promises are delivered.

"Politicians ignore us. When they need us they come here once in five years. When I go to them they do not listen. They have befriended criminals. Bandits have become politicians," Badain said.

"Still I vote because they offer temptations. How votes are cast depend upon who has the lathi (stick)."

Badseri is a large village, 80 km (50 miles) east of the state capital of Lucknow. By Indian standards it is prosperous, with a dozen wells, two tractors, two schools and five black and white television sets for nearly 500 families.

Half the population is made up of low status Harijans, formerly called untouchables, but the community is ruled by 50 families of high caste Thakurs who own most of the land and brick houses.

Many Harijans live in mud houses with flimsy thatched roofs. The village has no paved roads and the rains turn it into a quagmire.

"I am happy with the progress (the village has made) but the problem is that instead of water taps in public places they have been put in front of the landlord's house," Badain said.

"The other problem is that if you are poor and working on a farm and you can't get to work because of illness or something, the landlord's men will come and beat you," he said.

He fears nearly 20 per cent of the cash would go in bribes, leaving him insufficient funds to start his business.

He is also afraid of his landlord.

"If I set up a mill the landlord might kill me because I won't work for him any more," Badain said in the local Awadhi dialect.

So Badain works at the landlord's farm up to 12 hours a day. He knows little of national politics.

He has heard about the allegations of kickbacks in defence deals which the opposition hopes to make a major election issue to embarrass the government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Badain has heard of Gandhi, his mother and predecessor Indira and Jawaharlal Nehru, Gandhi's grandfather and India's first post-independence prime minister.

But he has never heard of Vishwanath Pratap Singh, a former finance minister, who has emerged as the top opposition leader and crusader against corruption.

He has heard about an employment scheme devised by the government which the ruling Congress Party believes is a sure vote-winner. It makes him angry.

"I have heard the headman has received Rs 150,000 (nearly \$10,000) under the scheme. But no money has been spent so far for making the road we need," Badain said.

(Badseri, India — Reuters)

Quote me

"We have proposed, are still proposing and I hope will continue to propose that these countries cease military aid to all the Khmer factions. If (they) cease their military aid, the Soviet Union will behave in an identical manner." — Soviet Ambassador to Cambodia, Rashid Khamidulin urging end of military aid to Cambodian groups.

"We continue to encourage all parties to find ways to launch an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue to discuss the Israeli election initiative. To the extent the 10 points can be helpful in that regard, we welcome Egypt's efforts." — State Department spokesperson Margaret Tutwiler on the 10-point proposal of Egypt for peace between Israel and Palestine.

"Nice going F.W. — But what's next? A few protest marches do not alter the fundamental (apartheid) system which governs our lives.... The window of opportunity (for reform) is open but it will not remain so for long." — The Sunday Star of Johannesburg in an editorial praising De Klerk but forecasting a short honeymoon for tolerance of demonstrations.

"For Yeltsin America is a festival, a scene, a bar 5,000 km (3,000 m) long. And for America, Yeltsin is a wonderful new toy, a puppet or a doll with a typical Russian face who says what no Russian dared to say before." — Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda slamming Boris Yeltsin for his conduct during his recent US tour.

"I think Mobutu is the only one who can make the reconciliation happen.... I don't see how he is going to continue. I think he is going to fail." — Jonas Savimbi, Unita leader, giving his assessment of the peace talks between Unita and the Angolan government.

"If Sweden is asked to take any role to push forward the peace efforts and help achieve the sought settlement that guarantees the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and the rights of all other countries, then we are ready to do so." — Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson, on the stalled Middle East peace initiative.

"I can tell you that they are being scrutinized critically and if there are any changes they will be in favour of reductions. All the more because the Syrian government's ability to pay is not unlimited." — Moscow's Ambassador to Syria, Alexander Dzasokhov on Moscow's intention to cut military aid to Syria.

"Let us hope and believe that this new era will be one in which far fewer billions will be spent on arming great nations to the teeth and amassing weapons that could destroy the world, and far more billions will be spent on improving the quality of life of all mankind." — Kuwaiti UN envoy Mohammad Abulhasan on world's increasing awareness of environmental pollution.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Envoy in Iran for talks on loan row

LONDON, Sept 18, (Reuters). French Middle East envoy Francois Scherer arrived in Tehran yesterday for talks on a dispute over repayment of an Iranian loan to France, the Iranian News Agency Irna reported.

The agency, received in London, said the settlement of the \$1-billion loan, made by Iran under the late Shah to the French company Eurodif, was among the objectives of Scherer's visit.

Iran has said the improvement of relations between the two countries would depend on settling the dispute.

Iran says that, with interest, the 1974 loan would be worth \$2 billion.

France has repaid \$630 million in two instalments since 1986. But Paris wants the Iranians to pay compensation to a French firm for breaking a contract to buy uranium.

Diplomatic relations between France and Iran were severed for 11 months between 1987 and 1988 in a dispute over French allegations that Iran's embassy in Paris had helped terrorists.

Iran said the two sides would also discuss co-operation in atomic energy as well as expansion of mutual relations and prospects for technical, economic and political co-operation.

An Iran said "future co-operation between the two countries" were also taken up, and that "both sides stressed the determination of their governments for expansion of bilateral relations."

Tax concessions vital, says Mani

Call to set up corporation for expats

By M.C. Bose
Business Editor

THE annual remittance from overseas Indians was estimated at about Rs15,000 million. In the thick of flow of Gulf money to Kerala — estimated at Rs 5,000 million a year in early '80s. Last year the remittance from the Gulf Malayalees was Rs3159 million. The depletion in these remittances has caused considerable strain not only to the families but also to the state's economy.

The situation has acquired a dangerous dimension with the large-scale return of Malayalees from Gulf countries having lost lucrative jobs.

According to official figures, more than one lakh people constituting one-third of the total number of Malayalees employed in these countries have returned home. Some of the Arab employers started retrenching Indian labour slowly, and in many cases made them accept

cuts in their wages. Every week on an average some 100 Malayalees are back home from the Gulf.

A financial expert and political leader from Kerala, was visiting Kuwait, has said most of these remittances were deposited in the banks as dead money. He said a portion of which is being utilised for unproductive purposes such as constructing residential buildings.

K.M. Mani, the chairman of Kerala Congress Party, who had been the state finance and home minister for more than a decade said if the government had set up an organisation for re-investment, the hard-earned money could have been used for productive purposes. He said this step would have been helpful to the overall development of the state and overseas Malayalees as well.

Mani said that the government should take initiative and set up a development corporation for the overseas Malayalees. He said: "At present we have an organisation in Kerala and its main objective is to provide overseas employment for job-seekers. We have to ensure the rehabilitation of those people who have been working abroad and on their return for permanent settlement in Kerala."



K.M. Mani

Mani said in order to fulfil this objective "we must have a separate organisation to deal with the rehabilitation of Gulf returnees."

He said efforts would be intensified in order to set up joint venture project for NRIs (Non-Resident Indians). Now we have Small Industrial Development Corporation (SIDCO) which gives financial assistance to individual entrepreneurs and promotes joint venture industrial projects. Similarly a separate corporation must take shape in the public sector.

He said the state-owned corporation and overseas Malayalees can set up joint venture industrial projects in order to promote industrial investment in the country. He added: "If the corporation comes into reality, I am sure the dead deposits in the various banks can be channelised for the industrialisation of the state."

Mani said: "This move itself will be a guarantee for the rehabilitation of expatriates and at the same time it will pave the way for creating more employment opportunities for expatriates and the millions of persons unemployed in the state."

Mani said with the expertise and the investment of the educated and dedicated expatriates the state can launch a revolutionary movement for the speedy industrialisation of Kerala. The central government has also to come in a big way to collaborate with this unique venture.

Mani said apart from setting up of joint venture, the corporation should also give financial assistance to individual entrepreneurs. "Provisions should also be made to ensure tax concessions and other incentives for such persons who come forward," he said.

Fast growing unemployment is becoming a hot political issue in Kerala.

According to official figures, the number of unemployed on employment registers is of the order of 3 million, which is a frightening figure for a state with a population of more than 25.5 million.

Dollar slips

Gold recovers

LONDON, Sept 18, (Reuters). The dollar slipped in Europe today still suffering the aftershocks of Friday's plunge and fears that central banks will act firmly if it surges back.

Dealers said the dollar still looks basically strong but they were nervous about it marking it up ahead of talks by Group of Seven (G-7) ministers in Washington on Saturday.

They worry that central banks, which share Western government concern about the dollar's recent strength, might intervene again in currency markets to push the US currency down.

But dealers reported no sign of central bank dollar sales in today's trade. "We are seeing a correction after the recent rally," said one Frankfurt trader. "The dollar has room to fall to 1.9550 marks, although it should bounce back from there."

The dollar traded in late European business around 1.96 West German marks and 143 Japanese yen, close to where it finished in New York on Friday after one of the most turbulent trading sessions in five years.

The dollar had risen rapidly to more than two marks and almost 149 yen, defying concerted central bank intervention after news of an unexpected 5.3 per cent drop in the US July trade deficit.

Gold, which hit three-year lows on Friday as traders fled from bullion into currencies, recovered somewhat to be fixed in London this afternoon at \$359.70 an ounce from Friday's close of \$356.40.

Illegal arms sales report

No comment: Ferranti

LONDON, Sept 18, (AP). Ferranti PLC, one of Britain's major defence manufacturers, declined to comment today on a newspaper report that its American subsidiary is being investigated for illegally selling arms in the Middle East and Africa.

The report in the Sunday Times also said that the subsidiary, Lancaster, Pennsylvania-based International Signal and Control, billed Ferranti for \$150 million (\$234 million) worth of non-existent contracts.

Ferranti spokesmen declined to comment on the report. They were not identified, following company policy.

Britain's Defence Secretary, Tom King, today declined to comment on what action, if any, the government was considering.

"I am very concerned and we hope these matters can be resolved at the earliest possible date because they are an important defence contractor," King said.

Ferranti executives left for the United States on Friday for top-level meetings, a Ferranti spokesman said today.

The Cheside, England-based company announced on Friday it called in the accountants Coopers and Lybrand to investigate irregularities in its accounts.

Iraq to stick to Opec quota despite higher capacity

MANAMA, Sept 18, (UPI). Iraq will stick to its Opec production quota despite a new increase in Baghdad's export capacity, an oil industry newsletter said today.

The Nicosia, Cyprus-based Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Iraq would stick to its 2.783 million barrels per day (BPD) Opec quota, "despite the new increase in export capacity which it has just achieved through the inauguration of the second phase of the Iraq pipeline trans Saudi Arabia (Ipsa-2) and the opening of a second berth, as well as the deepening of the channel at the Mina Al Bakr Terminal in the Gulf."

MEES quoted Iraq Oil Minister Isam Al Chalabi that, "we will continue to hold to

the quota and we will press the others to hold to their quotas also."

The newsletter estimated Iraq's oil export capacity at around 2.65 million BPD, rising by the end of the year to some 4.10 million BPD, with the following breakdown:

— Iraq-Turkish pipeline: 1.65 million BPD.

— Ipsa trans-Saudi pipeline: 700,000 BPD rising to 1.65 million BPD by the end of November 1989.

— Mina Al Bakr port: 300,000 BPD rising by the end of the year to 800,000 BPD.

Iraq's domestic refining capacity is currently estimated at 667,000 BPD, while domestic consumption is some 300,000 —

350,000 BPD. Last May, Chalabi was quoted as saying that Iraq's current output capacity stands at 4.5 million BPD and that there were several oilfields development projects already underway which would add to that figure.

Iraq began to expand its oil export facilities to limit its vulnerability to stoppages by political and military causes such as the 6-year-long war with Iran.

Iraqi oil exports through the Gulf during the Iran-Iraq war fell to less than 1 million BPD at one stage because of the closure of Gulf outlets and the halting of oil flow through the trans-Syrian pipeline.

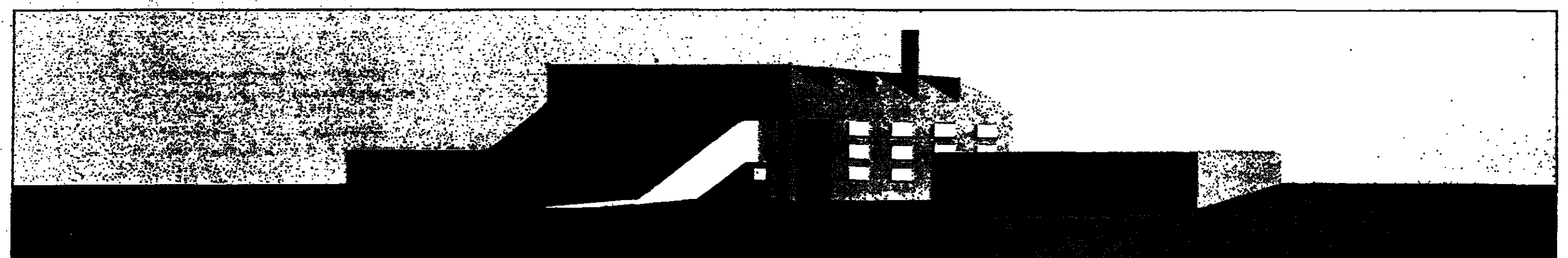
MEES said the first shipment of Basrah light crude oil to be exported from the

Ipsa-2 trans-Saudi pipeline will be lifted on Sept 19 by the Iraqi-owned tanker Al Qadisiyah from the new Red Sea port of Al Musayib, located some 30 miles (50-km) south of the Saudi Arabian Port of Yanbu.

It said that because of prior commercial commitments, and until the full operation of the three berths and full testing of the pipeline, exports of the Basrah light crude will continue for a few weeks both from the Saudi-owned Petroline as well as the Iraqi-owned Ipsa-2.

Vespa's lifting Iraqi crude will be guided by Saudi Aramco, the operator of the new pipeline, as to which port to load at, the newsletter said.

WE CAN'T THINK OF ONE GOOD REASON TO INVEST IN ESSAR'S RS. 14000 MILLION STEEL PROJECT.



As a matter of fact, there are 10 good reasons to invest in Essar.

ONE When you invest in Essar Gujarat, you're investing in a group with a proven track record.

A group that's created a name for itself in just 5 years with two successful ventures — Essar Gujarat and Essar Shipping.

A group with a gross block of over Rs.6800 million and net worth of Rs.2000 million.

A group that has already successfully proven itself in that gruelling battlefield — shipping.

Essar Shipping is one of the few companies to come out of the shipping crisis not just unscathed, but prosperous.

TWO Essar Gujarat Limited, a profit making company with a turnover of Rs.508 million, is already a major force in India's core sector.

The company has made substantial investments in Mega-construction projects, Offshore and Energy.

Most of the contracts were won in the face of stiff international competition.

Essar Gujarat is in the process of setting up the world's largest gas based hot briquetted sponge iron plant.

This Rs.3050 million plant in Hazira, Gujarat, will be completed by early 1990 and will meet the enormous demand for sponge iron in the country — a gap which is expected to be 4.5 million tonnes in 1990.

THREE Essar Gujarat Limited is now making a spectacular entry into steel with a

Rs.14000 million steel plant.

This steel complex will be the second largest in the Indian private sector.

Metchem, a subsidiary of US Steel, has conducted a detailed feasibility study for Essar and confirmed the technical, financial and marketing viability of this project.

The project will be largely unaffected by international exchange fluctuations as most raw materials used are indigenous.

At the marketing end, Essar Gujarat is already in the process of tying up with leading commodity trading houses.

FOUR As the entire project is a 100% export oriented one, the Government of India will not levy any duties on import of capital equipment and raw materials.

At the same time, Government regulations permit 25% of the production to be marketed in India.

In addition, any sales made to authorised steel importers in India, would be considered as exports.

FIVE This project will make Essar Gujarat the largest exporter of steel in India.

Estimated foreign exchange earnings in the next five years are Rs.25000 million.

Being a 100% export oriented unit, the company will be entitled to a 100% tax holiday.

SIX Invest in Essar and you'll be investing in high growth. Audited figures of the company show a turnover of

Rs.509 million and a net profit of Rs.103 million.

This turnover is expected to touch Rs.12500 million by 1995. While net profit is expected to soar to Rs.1790 million.

Likewise, gross assets which stand today at Rs.2044 million, are projected to reach Rs.21000 million by 1995.

SEVEN A special feature of the Issue: One warrant will be attached with each Convertible Debenture and will be detachable and freely tradeable.

The warrant holder will be entitled to apply for one equity share of the company at any time within 4-5 years from the date of allotment at a price to be decided by the Controller of Capital Issues at that time and not exceeding Rs.70 per share.

EIGHT Here's another incentive to invest in Essar: A loyalty coupon worth Rs.10. It can be cashed by the original allottee provided the shares on conversion are retained till December 1992.

NINE As a unique feature, the company has finalised the terms of payment specially for the non-resident Indian Issue, to minimise the exchange risk.

On application — Rs.60 only
On call — Rs.120 (but not before April 1990)

TEN In the last five years, Essar has been part of the giant strides India has made in industry.

By making substantial investments in the core sector.

So, if you're thinking of investing in your homeland, there's no better time than now.

Terms of the instrument

Secured Convertible Debentures. Face Value Rs.180 each. Rate of interest: 12.5% per annum, payable half yearly.

Conversion terms

The debenture will comprise of two parts:

Part A: Rs.80 will be converted into 2 equity shares of par value Rs.10 each at a premium of Rs.30 each on 1st June 1990.

Part B: Rs.100 will be converted into 2 equity shares at par value Rs.10 each at a premium of Rs.40 each on 1st June 1992 (subject to approval of the Controller of Capital Issues).

Listing

The debentures are proposed to be listed at the Bombay, Ahmedabad, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bangalore Stock Exchanges.

Bankers to the Issue:

Kuwait: Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait U.A.E.: Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, Bank of Baroda, British Bank of Middle East, Grindlays Bank p.l.c., Bank of Credit and Commerce International. Qatar: British Bank of the Middle East, Grindlays Bank p.l.c. Bahrain: Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait, Bank of Baroda, Bank of Credit and Commerce International, British Bank of Middle East, State Bank of India.

ESSAR PROUD TO BE INDIAN

ESSAR GUJARAT LTD.

Regd. Off.: 141 Maker Chambers IV, Nariman Point, Bombay 400 021.
Tel: 22-2042600 Tlx. 11-4921 ESAR IN Cable: ESSAR BULK Fax: 22-2042676

ISSUE OPENS ON 18TH SEPTEMBER 1989 AND CLOSURES ON 5TH OCTOBER 1989.

Arab foreign debt on the rise, says study

MANAMA, Bahrain, Sept 18, (AP): Arab foreign debt has increased in the last few years to an estimated peak of \$140 billion in 1988 compared to \$68 billion in 1982, said a study published today.

The monthly bulletin of the Gulf International Bank, a reputed economic and financial report in the oil-rich region, said the level was of matter for concern.

It cited an average ratio of total external debt to gross domestic product of 65.8 per cent in 1987 compared to 52.5 per cent in 1982. The corresponding average ratio for the highest 17 indebted countries in the world was 63.1 per cent in 1987.

For Egypt, Sudan, Jordan and Morocco, the external debt to GDP ratio

exceeded 100 per cent, said the report by the Bahrain-based bank.

The report said these four Arab countries, along with Iraq, also were facing debt-repayment difficulties, and have had to reschedule part or all of their debt in order to reduce their overall debt service burden.

The other indebted Arab countries, Tunisia, Algeria, Syria, South and North Yemen, have been able to forestall debt rescheduling either by drawing on International Monetary Fund and World Bank standby facilities or through a buildup of debt-service arrears.

Lebanon, Somalia and Mauritania have virtually no access to international borrowing, while Oman, Qatar and Libya are able to tap the international

markets at reasonably good rates.

The remaining Arab countries, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, have opted until now to borrow internationally, preferring instead to draw on their domestic markets through government bonds and treasury bills.

These oil-rich countries are among the major financial aiders of the Arab world. Their national and regional agencies disbursed \$18.8 billion in easy-term loans and credits mainly to Arab countries in 1973-87.

The amounts were still small in relation to the lending capacity of all Arab aid agencies which it estimated at \$28 billion in 1988, advising the regional and

national development agencies in the Gulf that they "can play a significant role in the economic revival of the Arab indebted Arab countries."

Noting that Arab countries in the past decade have received more Euro-lending from Arab banks than any other region, totalling \$22 billion, the study prescribed similar lead management of loans on behalf of the Arabs.

The study also deplored the flight of private Arab capital, estimating it at minimum \$40 billion in 1977-87, around one third the total Arab outstanding debt. Total capital flight from world-wide indebted nations was some \$300 billion, with 250 million in Latin America.

Among other causes of Arab external indebtedness, the study referred to over-dependence on expatriate labour remittances "that are volatile and extremely vulnerable to external conditions." This item accounted for more than 40 per cent of current account earnings in Jordan, Morocco, North Yemen, Sudan and Syria.

High population growth rates, narrow range of exports, excessive consumption and rising budget and current account deficits and increasing burden of debt servicing were also listed. It also mentioned over-extended and mismanaged public sectors, low domestic savings, unrealistic exchange rates and funding of long-term projects with short-term credits.

Beijing brings inflation down

BEIJING, Sept 18, (Reuters): China announced today it has brought inflation down to its lowest level in 17 months, but the success will cost banks and the budget dearly.

Figures published by the People's Daily showed urban prices at the end of August were 12.9 per cent higher than a year earlier, down from 17.1 per cent in July. It did not give the rate nationwide.

The figure marked the lowest rise in cities since March 1988, when inflation began a climb to a 40-year high of more than 30 per cent reached in the first quarter of this year.

Tough austerity measures introduced a year ago have succeeded in slowing runaway industrial growth and consumer spending, blamed as the main causes of inflation.

People's Daily said retail sales, which soared nearly 30 per cent last year, fell in August from a year earlier.

Beijing has managed in the short term to bring inflation down, "a Western diplomat commented. "But the price has been less reform and more central control and subsidies."

Losses by state firms, hard hit by the austerity drive, in the first eight months of this year more than doubled from 1988, while budget revenue fell further behind expenditure.

Subsidies to cover these losses and to hold down prices of grain, vegetable oil, coal, electricity and rent will cost the government 93.1 billion yuan (\$25 billion) this year, one-third of state revenue, latest official figures show.

Beijing must also find several billions to help banks fund a scheme that has been one of the most important means in reducing price rises — inflation-linked bank savings.

Since last September, depositors who put money into banks for at least three years will receive additional payment above the fixed interest rate if inflation exceeds that level.

But banks must pay huge sums to depositors under the scheme and they cannot raise interest rates on loans enough to cover those costs.

Currency rates

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait, yesterday.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.30003	0.30118
Sterling	0.46909	0.47315
DM	0.15284	0.15402
S. fr.	0.17827	0.17976
F. fr.	0.04533	0.04571
Il. lira	0.00021330	0.00021466
Jap. yen	0.0020382	0.0020707
Bh. dinar	0.79551	0.79642
UAE dh.	0.06167	0.06204
S. riyal	0.07996	0.08035
Q. riyal	0.08238	0.08280
O. riyal	0.77889	0.78269

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Sept 18, (Kuna): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-5/16	8-9/16
3 months	8-5/16	8-9/16
6 months	8-5/16	8-9/16
1 year	8-5/16	8-9/16

Exchange Rates

Indian rupee	17.990
Sri Lankan rupee	7.620
Pakistani rupee	14.410
Bangladesh taka	9.240
US dollar	30.110
Pound sterling	47.520
Deutsche mark	153.70
UAE dirham	0.8195
Japanese yen	0.02066

Japan must open markets: Thatcher

LONDON, Sept 18, (UPI):

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher departed today on a four-day visit to Tokyo and warned that Japan would not be able to rely on Britain's open markets unless it liberalised its own domestic markets to imports.

Thatcher who will be attending a conference arranged by the International Democratic Union, said she would have talks with Kaifu before the conference started and also meet Emperor Akihito.

A government spokesman said she would also voice her "frustration" at the continuing delay of the Tokyo stock in granting membership to two British investment companies, James Capel and Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

"We have an adverse balance of payments, and they have a colossal balance of payments surplus," she said in a television interview before her 12.30 pm (1100 GMT) departure. "Part of that is because our markets are far more open than theirs, and they must open their markets more."

To emphasise her point, the government Central Statistical Office which compiles macro-economic figures, released details of the £50-billion (\$80 billion) annual surplus between the two countries.

It said that in the first quarter this year, British exports to Japan had totalled £570 million (\$912 million) compared to £1.733 billion (\$2.773 billion) of Japanese imports by Britain. Figures for the past four years showed a similar trend.

A government spokesman told United Press International that however others may interpret the figures, the gap was serious.

Thatcher was more blunt when asked if she hoped to return with a deal of greater reciprocity from Japan: "Reciprocity in the sense that if you rely on other peoples' open markets for prosperity as Japan does, you must expect other people to be able to have their markets as open as ours."

"They cannot rely on our open markets unless they are prepared

to have similar open markets. Let me just give you one example that I have been on about. We have a highly efficient distribution system in our retail shops, extremely efficient," Thatcher said.

"We are one of the most efficient countries in the world at retail distribution, and so if Japan with her very good products wants to plug into our retail distribution system, she doesn't have to see that many people, she can get into a few of the big chains and she's got her goods all over Britain."

"She can get into a few of the motor dealers and she's got her goods all over Britain. There is nothing like that in Japan and they really ought to be getting it, because otherwise it is an active stop to us being able to sell as easily to them and getting all over Japan — and it is stopping the Japanese consumer from having the proper choice," she said.

Government officials said Thatcher was also likely to raise British concern that the current US trade negotiations under the

structural impediments initiative could result in bilateral deals between Tokyo and Washington at the expense of European Economic Community interest.

But Thatcher said she would "tackle" Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu personally about the two investment companies seeking places on the Tokyo Exchange, and seek further Japanese investment in Britain.

"We've been trying to get into their stock exchange with two of our firms for a long time. I tackled Mr Nakasone about it. I tackled Mr (Noboru) Takeshita about it, I tackled Mr Uno about it and now I will tackle Mr Kaifu. He will be the prime minister I tackle on this subject. They always have an explanation and it's not an explanation, and I shall tackle him again and say, 'look this isn't right, you have got deliberate barriers there,'" Thatcher said.

During her visit, Thatcher will also hold talks with US Vice-President Dan Quayle, and stop over in Moscow on her way back for a brief meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Grain purchases abroad suspended

Moscow to boost domestic production

MOSCOW, Sept 18, (Reuters): The Soviet Union has suspended grain purchases abroad while it starts paying its farmers in foreign currency for above-average production, the head of the grain-buying agency Exportkhleb said today.

"At the present time we are not going to buy anything. We will buy from our state and collective farms," Oleg Klimov told Reuters when asked whether Moscow would buy any more grain abroad this year.

The Soviet Union, the world's largest grain importer, announced last month that it would start paying grain farmers partially in foreign currency to slash agricultural imports and boost domestic production.

The prices paid to Soviet farmers will be well below the world market price, helping Moscow save money even in the extremely unlikely event that its own farmers produce enough to make grain imports unnecessary.

But the programme is still expected to be a powerful incentive to farmers, who will be able to use the foreign currency to buy everything from sophisticated agricultural machinery to video recorders for collective farm sitting rooms.

Last year's grain harvest was 195 million tonnes, but analysts say the Soviet Union needs at least 230 million tonnes to be self-sufficient in grain.

This year's harvest is 95 per cent in and yields are running well ahead of last year's, but the US Agriculture Department still estimates the crop only at 200 million tonnes.

Authorities are just starting to implement the plan to pay above-average producers in foreign currency and Klimov said it was difficult to say whether Moscow would go shopping again on world grain markets before the end of 1989.

"The main task is to buy from the state and collective farms and it is difficult to say when we will finish. It could be two months, three months, four months, I cannot say," Klimov said in a telephone interview.

"It is the first year we have done this and therefore we have no experience. Anyhow it is fairly long term," he said.

Moscow has met all its grain purchase commitments abroad for this year, Klimov said. The United States, Canada and Western Europe are the Soviet Union's main suppliers.

Industry must help fight pollution

MONTREAL, Sept 18, (Reuters): The battle against pollution would be won only if industry and consumers joined governments in the frontline, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said yesterday at the world energy conference.

"Governments carry their share of the load, but industry and the public also have indispensable contributions to make," said Mulroney, appearing at the opening ceremony of the week-long meeting in Montreal of energy experts from 90 countries.

Mulroney said signs in the market indicated that private companies would prove to be the most effective environmentalists. "Only they have the capacity to bring environmentally sound products to market," he said.

Industrialised countries had a special responsibility to take the lead in reforming the environment and a change in consumer attitudes would also be

required, he said.

"Industrialised countries account for the lion's share of current global carbon dioxide production. Global climate change is potentially the most dangerous and complex challenge that governments face," the prime minister stated.

Strategies to reduce the warming of the globe will be one of the subjects of discussion at the conference, the 14th such meeting of energy experts.

Environmentalists have been waiting for decisive action since leaders of the Group of Seven industrial democracies agreed in July to jointly try to cut emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases blamed for the so-called greenhouse effect.

Ways to improve energy efficiency in developing countries while meeting increasing demands for more stringent environmental criteria will also be discussed.

Workers return to steel plants

ANKARA, Sept 18, (Reuters): Some 24,000 workers returned to two of Turkey's largest steel mills today, ending a 137-day strike for higher wages, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency said.

Metin Turker, chairman of the independent Celik-Is Union, said he would go along with the agreement signed by a deputy in his absence yesterday to "protect the interests of the workers and the country."

"The signing of the agreement is against the constitution but the workers will end the strike to prevent labour unrest," he told the Anatolian News Agency.

Workers returning to the state-run Karabuk plant on the Black Sea coast and Iskenderun mills in the south were paid lump sums as advances on back pay, Anatolian said.

The settlement gave them pay increases of 120 per cent and a number of fringe benefits. They had sought increases between 400 and 500 per cent. The strike began on May 4.

The two plants produce more than 30 per cent of Turkey's annual iron and steel output of nine million tonnes. Managers said production would take two weeks to reach pre-strike levels.

The number of Turkish work days lost in strikes reached two million in the first seven months of 1988, surpassing 1.9 million days in the whole of last year.

Menem medicine perks up economy

BUENOS AIRES, Sept 18, (Reuters): Investors have started flocking to the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange in the latest sign that Argentina's once crippled economy is on the mend.

A flurry of business pushed the share index up by Friday's close to 146 per cent over its level on July 7 — the day before President Carlos Menem took power.

At that time of hyperinflation and soaring interest rates, the Peronist leader said he had inherited from Raul Alfonsin's radical government "the worst crisis in Argentine history."

But only last month Menem had predicted: "the stock exchange will be a reflection of the growth in Argentina."

By last week, new share trading volume records were set on four days in a row, reaching \$17 million on Friday against daily averages of \$200,000 in Alfonsin's final months in power.

Among major shares, Argentine-Swiss owned oil company Astra has been star performer with a 300 per cent increase in just over two months. Another big gainer was sugar producer Tabacal from the poverty-stricken northwest with a 166 per cent rise.

"The stock exchange is now good business," said independent stockbroker Ernesto Allaria Ledesma.

Stockbrokers are keen to point out the boom took place against a background of a stable "peso" currency, meaning the rise in stock prices signified a real gain for the investor.

A 54 per cent devaluation in the official austral rate on July 9 closed the gap with the black market rate which then was used for most business other than official imports and exports.

Official and black market australs now trade for around the same and the government has promised to keep the official rate at least until March 1990. "This clearly encourages investors from betting on hard currencies," Allaria Ledesma said.

In the 70 days since Menem launched his "productive revolution" Argentina's sick economy has improved dramatically.

Argentina is planning to offer licenses to search for and extract oil in 100 new areas as part of a policy to attract foreign investment, a government official said today.

The Domestic Notices Argentina news agency reported secretary for economic co-ordination Orlando Ferreres as saying a programme would encourage foreign companies to participate in the exploitation of other minerals.

On Thursday, acting president of the state oil company Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales (YPF) Octavio Frigerio said the government was about to announce a plan to deregulate the oil industry by permitting private sector involvement in all and not just marginal areas. It would also create a free market for petroleum, gas and oil products.

Bank merger plans shelved

AMSTERDAM, Sept 18, (Reuters): Citing technical, legal and other problems, Belgium's biggest commercial bank and the second largest in the Netherlands said today they were abandoning plans for Western Europe's first full cross-border banking merger.

Generale Bank NV of Belgium and Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank NV (Amro Bank) of the Netherlands said they decided "to continue and expand co-operation in a number of areas while abandoning the goal of full integration" which they set in February 1988.

Current cross shareholdings of 9.99 per cent in each other would be reduced to five per cent, and would be held by both banks directly, Amro and Generale said.

They said they had signed a new agreement to replace the February 1988 accord. It specified that co-operation between them would focus on "commercial, technical and support areas."

"Amro and Generale Bank are free to go their own way in the pursuit of their individual strategic goals," the statement said. It added both banks might still decide to go ahead with a partial or full merger later if circumstances permitted.

The statement followed months of silence from both banks on their plans for the first cross-border merger ahead of the 1992 deadline for freeing trade and capital flows in the European Economic Community. Last February, they said the merger had top priority but problems should not be underestimated.

The merged bank would have been the biggest in the Benelux countries, ranking fourth in Europe and 15th world-wide in terms of assets.

Combined 1988 consolidated results published last month showed a net profit of 422 million European Currency Units (\$446 million) on a balance sheet total of 125.9 billion Ecu (\$133 billion).

Credit restrictions played

TUNIS, Sept 18, (Reuters): The governors of Arab central banks criticised today credit restrictions which the European Economic Community plans to impose on loans to Third World countries.

A statement issued after a meeting of the governors in Tunis said the restrictions, which will require high capital adequacy ratios for such loans, would have negative effects on the activities of Arab banks based in Europe.

"It means that all countries other than those in the European Economic Community, Saudi Arabia and Turkey are declared high risk and the banks will have to cover credits to them fully or increase their own reserves," a Tunisian financier said.

The measures are part of a Basle accord of 1988. The statement said the Central Bank governors would raise the issue of the restrictions at international meetings. The Arab Monetary Fund and the Federation of Arab Banks would look at ways of alleviating the effects on the Arab banks.

About 60 Arab banks operate in European Economic Community countries.

Corporate tax planned

DUBAI, Sept 18, (Reuters): Oman has decided to impose corporate tax on wholly Omani-owned companies starting from this year, business sources in Muscat said.

Companies owned partially by foreigners are already paying corporate tax of up to 50 per cent, depending on the amount of revenues and rate of foreign ownership.

"The legislation for Omani-owned companies to pay corporate tax was in effect, but every year the Sultan was extending the tax holiday for them," one businessman contacted by telephone in Muscat said. He said a decree issued on September 16, 1988, ended corporate tax on Omani-owned companies.

The sources said Omani-owned companies will be exempted from taxes for up to 30,000 Omani riyals (\$82,500) of their revenues.

Tokyo share prices

Nikkei stock average: 34472.54 (+70.66)	Nikon Corporation	1470
Volume: 459 mil shs	Nippon Shippan Co. Ltd.	1820
Yen exchange rate: 146.43	Nippon Steel Corp.	790
	Nipponstone Co. Ltd.	2490
	Nissin Chemical Corp.	1430
	Nomura Securities	3090
	Okuma Machinery Work.	1760
	Onward Kashiwama Co.	2160
	Orix Corporation	6800
	Pioneer Electronic Co.	4200
	Renova Look Inc.	2490
	Sanyo Electric Co.	870
	Seco Co. Ltd.	7600
	Shin-Etsu Chemical Co.	1730
	Shindengen Electric	1190
	Sony Corporation	8220
	Sumitomo Elec. Ind.	1500
	Sumitomo Metal Ind.	757
	Takeda Chemical Ind.	2450
	TDK Corporation	5630
	Tokio Marine Fire	2010
	Tokyo Elec. Power	5740
	Tokyo Electron Ind.	3270
	Toppan Printing	2010
	Toray Industries Inc.	1008
	Toshiba Corporation	1280
	Toyota Motor Corp.	2570
	Yamaha Electric Mfg.	1260
	YPF add:	
	Banyo Pharm.	1840 up 30
	Calsonic	1500 up 30
	Daiwa House	2660 up 30
	Fuji Bank	3590 up 10
	Fuji Elec.	1080 up 10
	JAI	17000 up 100
	Kirin	1910 up 20
	Mitsui Bank	2490 up 10
	Nissan	1480 up 10
	Sanwa Bank	1210 up 10
	Sekisui	2490 up 30
	Sharp	1410 up 10
	Shideo	2030 up 20
	Taisei	1610 up 10
	Yokogawa	1850 up 30
	Provided by Nomura Investment Banking (Midland), Bahrain	
	NEC Corporation	1780

Bombay shares

BOMBAY Stock Exchange Closing prices (Rs) as on: Sept 18, 1989.			
ACC	269	Indrayan	85
Asia Paint	201.25	Indral	246.25
Brooke Bond	86	J.K. Synthetics	77
Bajaj Auto	313.75	Larsen and Toubro	101
Baroda Rayon	730	Mathur PI	
Bombay Dyeing	127.50	Mukand	131.50
Century Spinning	2195	Master Shri	15.85
Colgate	173.75	Mahindra	95
RSE Index	726.75	Mico	655
Deepak Fert.	31.50	Noel	1105
E.I. Hotel	58	Orkay	16
Eskayel	118.75	Premier Auto	61.50
Esar	24	Peico	23
GNFC	34.25	Pfizer	67
GSFC	165	Raymond	
Gujarat	106	Reliance	104
G.E. Ship	41.25	Spic	50
Garware Polyester	70.25	Siemens	74
Glindia	93	Sid Mills	470
Hindcoora	133.75	Tata Power	337.50
Hind Lever	100	Tata Chemicals	125.50
Hindalco	257.50	Tisco	1208
Hindmotor	32.50	Telco	1023
I.T.C.	66	Volvo	960
Indian Organic	48	Nat index	983.16
		(Compiled by Kuwait India International Exchange Co.)	

Crooners take heart

way it has, the health care system had to cut its dependence on drugs bought from multinational corporations.

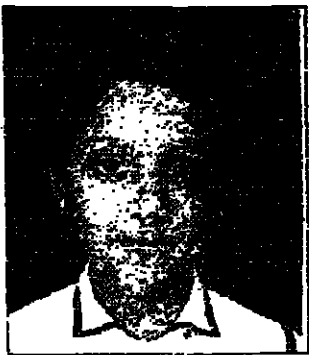
"Medicines on the world market are exorbitantly priced. You cannot develop a health care service like ours without having a pharmaceutical industry," he said. "Besides, because of its economic embargo, the United States has refused to sell us even an aspirin over the past 30 years."

Today 85 per cent of the medicines used by the public health service are produced within Cuba.

Cuba uses genetic engineering techniques to produce reagents, such as those used for testing Aids, said Terry, who heads the national commission on Aids.

Terry points with pride to the declining infant mortality rate, an important public health measurement.

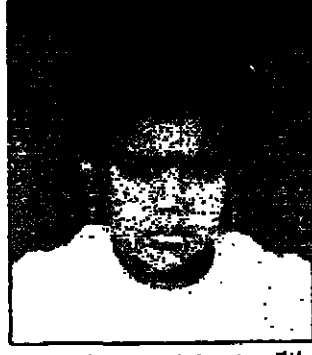
Happy birthday



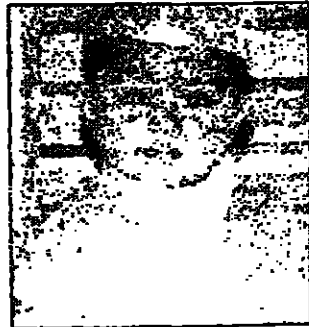
Hussain Hakimuddin Lokhandwala celebrated his 11th birthday on September 16. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends.



Rommel Dolar celebrates his 5th birthday, today September 19. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Rommel goes to the United Indian School and likes tennis.



Mary Helga celebrates 5th birthday on September 20. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Mary goes to the Kendriya Vidyalyaya School and likes singing and dancing.



Naveed Minhas celebrated his 1st birthday on August 31. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Naveed has no particular hobbies.



Heena Asarpota celebrates her 13th birthday on September 20. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Heena goes to the Indian School and likes music, computers and reading.



Chhavi Gupta celebrates her 10th birthday today, September 19. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Chhavi goes to the Indian School and likes dancing.



Sunny Cardoz celebrated his 5th birthday on September 18. Belated greetings from parents, family and friends. Sunny goes to the Kuwait Indian School and likes watching cartoons.

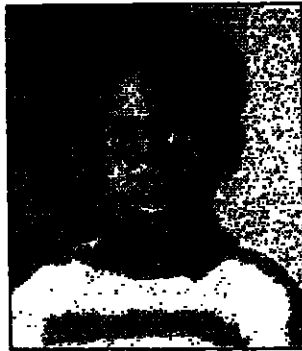


Patsy Fernandes celebrated her 1st birthday on September 18. Belated greetings from parents, brother, sister, Nana and uncle. Patsy likes dancing and playing.



Mohammed Kabir celebrates his 6th birthday, today September 19. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends. Mohammed goes to the New Indian School.

Going to School



Tochantcho Pierre a four-year-old boy from Cameroon will be going to the Sunshine School this year. Tchantcho wants to become a pilot or a fireman when he grows up.



Agnes Galkwad is starting her education at the Indian School this year. Agnes a four-year-old Indian has not yet decided what she wants to be when she grows up.



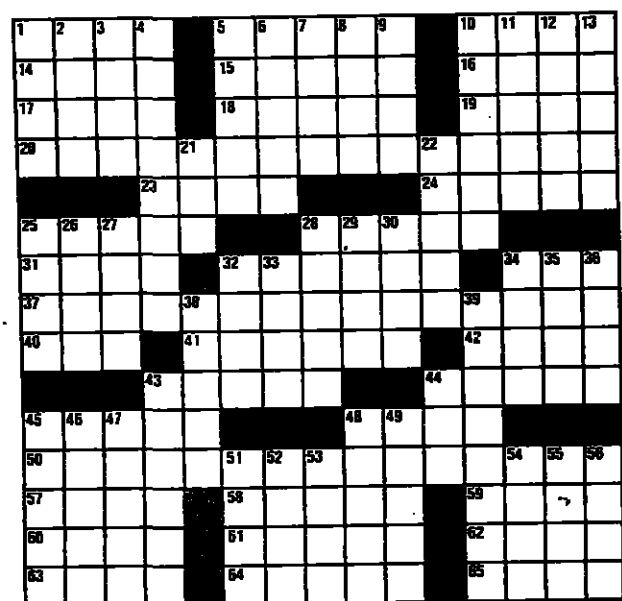
Salman Ali Ragib will be starting at the New Indian School this year. He is a four-year-old Indian and wants to be a pilot and a great leader when he grows up.

Ten differences

Can you spot the ten differences between these two pictures?



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 "The King —"
 - 5 Oscar or Edgar
 - 10 Founders
 - 14 Doggie lead-in
 - 15 Prohibition
 - 16 Heinous
 - 17 From this date
 - 18 Rely on
 - 19 Chi-chi
 - 20 Back out
 - 23 Legendary birds
 - 24 Out of practice
 - 25 Delibes opus
 - 28 Pivotal
 - 31 Venezuelan mining town
 - 32 Mount of —, near Jerusalem
 - 34 Captured
 - 37 Back off
 - 40 Tiny, to a Glaswegian
 - 41 Interior designers' forte
 - 42 Soccer movement
 - 43 Composer Copland
 - 44 Big do's
 - 45 Laziness
 - 48 Hang in there, in poker
 - 50 Back away from
 - 57 Huron's cousin
 - 58 Throw out
 - 59 Ballerina Spessivtseva
 - 60 Tied
 - 61 Barker's babble
 - 62 Diva — Te Kanawa
 - 63 Does a roofing job
 - 64 Boxer Liston
 - 65 Reason to dial 911: Abbr.
- DOWN**
- 1 Blind as —
 - 2 Snack
 - 3 Way out
 - 4 Casual
 - 5 Dialect of ancient Greece
 - 6 Tips off
 - 7 Adjoin
 - 8 — Hashana
 - 9 Be overly fond
 - 10 Sidetrack
 - 11 Swears
 - 12 IQ test creator
 - 13 In a toxy manner
 - 21 Sorrow
 - 22 Municipal problem
 - 25 Swimmer's count
 - 26 Skunk cabbage, i.e.
 - 27 — Peninsula, U.S.S.R.
 - 28 Small Western pine
 - 29 Done with
 - 30 More's partner
 - 32 Unusual bloke
 - 33 Crazy
 - 34 "True —": John Wayne film
 - 35 Story beginner
 - 36 Disapprover's sounds
 - 38 Pocastello's state
 - 39 "Sure!"
 - 43 Where the Phnx is
 - 44 Booster
 - 45 Kind of tooth
 - 46 Tadpole, for one
 - 47 Willow
 - 48 Gloss
 - 49 Count up
 - 51 Loch of note
 - 52 Olympic Stadium player
 - 53 Make a web
 - 54 Scant
 - 55 Bugbear
 - 56 Weather word

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

RASP MARC CRAB
AREA ASEA RILED
SILL RIVE ENTRY
HALL INDEN AGENA
SEER STORIED
SPOOL SEINES
HELMET STE TAIL
OPTATES SAMARRA
DOOR NIP DARNED
SCORES CROSS
WASHER LIDO
ISLAM ELTONJOHN
SHARE GASP OGBEE
PUTIN OTOE SLAM
RIEF SEIND HERO

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
TRUMP COUP TOMMY'S TEAM TRIAL

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K Q 4
♥ K Q 6 5 2
♦ 6
♣ 10 7 5 3

EAST
♠ 8 6 5
♥ 9
♦ J 10 9 8 3
♣ K 6 4 2

WEST
♠ J 10 9 3
♥ J 10 7 4
♦ Q 5 2
♣ J 8

SOUTH
♠ A 7 2
♥ A 8 3
♦ A K 7 4
♣ A Q 9

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass
3 ♥ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♣ Pass 6 ♥ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠
The captain of the bridge squad dreaded the summer holidays. Many of his key players went away on vacation, and he was occasionally forced to call on Trump Coup Tommy to complete his team. The results varied; more often than not they were below par, but when trumps failed to break, TCT was in command.

Tommy and partner reached a good six-heart contract on the auc-

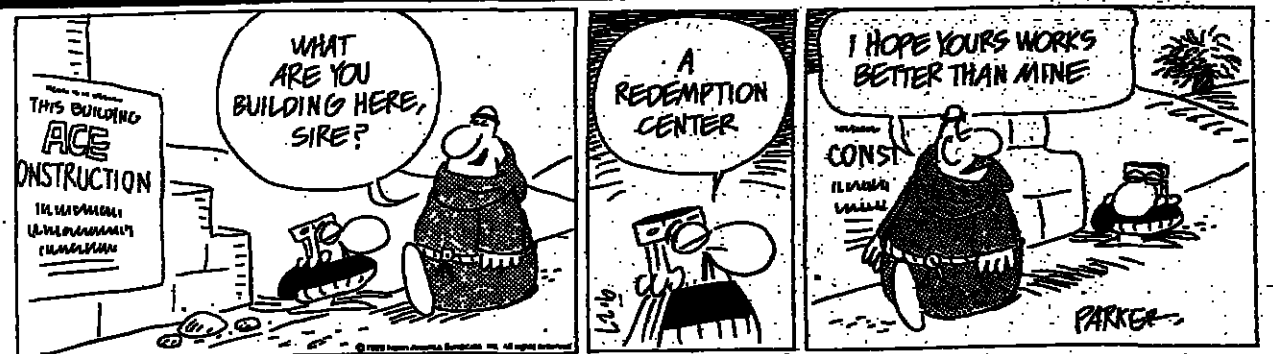
tion shown. North's bid of three diamonds was a transfer to hearts, and North blasted into slam after checking on aces. With a normal 3-2 trump break, one of two club finesses was all that would be needed to land 12 tricks.

Declarer won the opening spade lead with dummy's queen and cashed two high hearts. When East showed out on the second round, the situation was tailor-made for Tommy. Most declarers would have played East for both the king and jack of clubs, but not our man.

TCT cashed the ace and king of diamonds, discarding a club from the table, then ruffed a diamond. Next came dummy's remaining high trump and the ace-king of spades. There was still one major hurdle to surmount. Tommy led a club to the queen and, when the finesse succeeded, the hand was over. Declarer cashed the ace of clubs, led his last diamond and caught West between the devil and the deep blue sea. If the defender ruffed, dummy's trump would be established as the fulfilling trick; if West discarded, the table's trump would win a trick *en passant*. When West chose to discard, both defenders won the last trick—West with his master trump and East with the king of clubs.

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Your mood will have its ups and downs and you should try to level it out. You will have some financial problems and you should exercise a little more care about your outgoings. You should not put off making an important decision.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Nothing will go as quickly as you would wish so there is no time at all to lose. Keep your objectives clearly in mind. Do not take on more commitments than you can readily cope with. Be respectful.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Leave as little as possible over for another day. There will be some tensions but you will know how to deal with them. Avoid making a nuisance of yourself. Be observant.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Do make sure you pass on a message you have been given. But avoid betraying a confidence. The solution to a problem will lie in an unexpected quarter. Be willing to learn.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You should take a little care of your health. Keep your mind on the job you are about and do not stray from the subject. Make sure you do not quarrel with a friend. Be sincere.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be able to do something to relieve one of your anxieties. Do not allow a small matter to be blown out of proportion. You should not say one thing and then do another. Be patient.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will have to be just a little more patient, but your patience will be well rewarded. Your lucky numbers are 13 and 29. Make sure you do not cross a road without looking where you are going.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Do not deal with conjectures, instead try to deal with the facts. You should not allow yourself to be distracted. A personal project will make better project than you had thought possible. Be generous.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will find it a little harder to make up your mind, but should not try sitting on the fence. Make sure you do not lose sight of your objectives. Keep your wits very much about you. Be determined.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You will not find it easy to express yourself clearly but you must try. You should make sure you do not spend as if you had all the money in the world. You will be able to do something to further harmonize with your partner.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Make sure you eat a balanced diet and do make sure you reduce your intake of sugar somewhat. Do not take quite so much for granted. You should try to avoid becoming involved in something that does not really concern you. Be candid.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will be able to give a friend some good advice and he will be grateful. Have just a little more faith in yourself. Do not seek more speed at the expense of accuracy. Be tactful.

2nd of 3-part series

Back to school

By Julie Hodgson

"NOW children", said the teacher, "I want you all turn to the person on your left, and say hello."

What a lot of noise they made as they all started to talk at once, but because it was their first day of a new school, she let them get to know each other. After ten minutes, she handed out some crayons and paper, and told them to draw anything they liked. It could be their favourite toy, or their house, or an animal.

All the boys and girls enjoyed the colouring, the teacher said they were all very good, and very neat. The teacher let them play with the puzzles, then let them go outside for their snack time. Sarah and Bidor sat together and chatted. Two boys called Abdul and Hamid, came and sat with the two girls, and started talking to them, they asked each

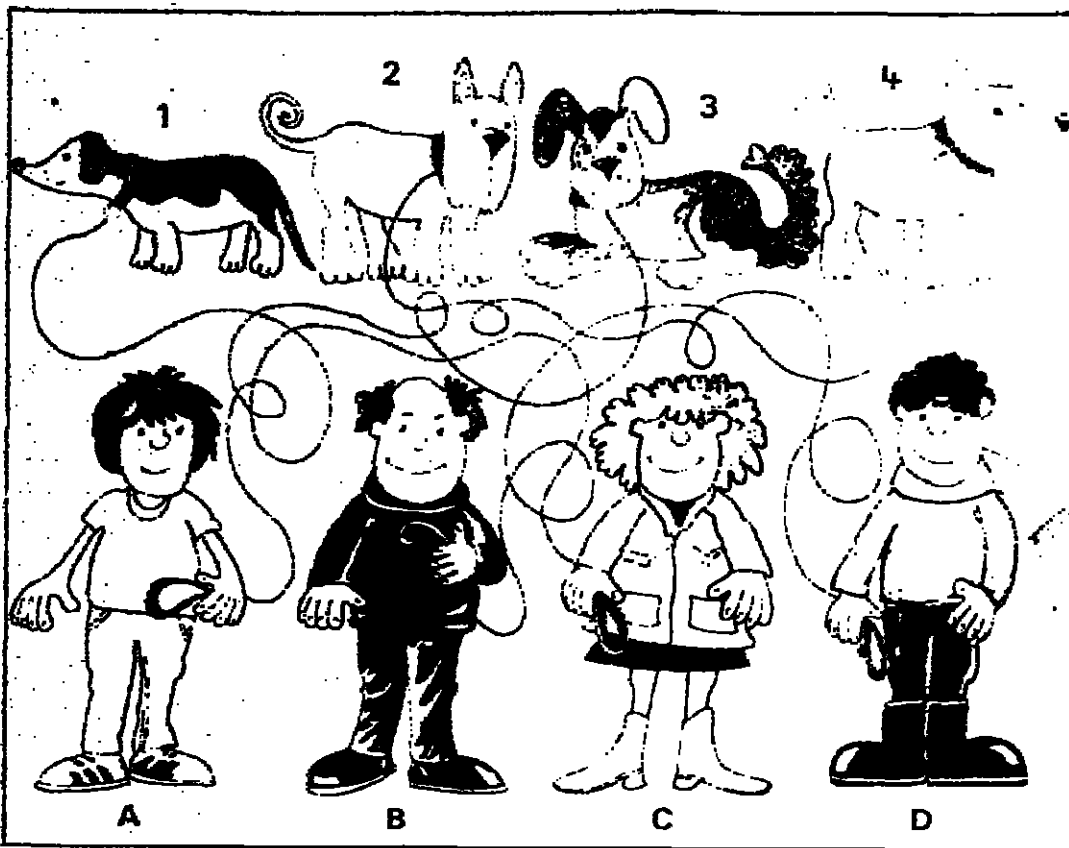


other where they came from.

"Come in children", said the teacher clapping her hands together. They all lined up, and in single file went into their classroom, for the rest of the morning. After school had finished, Sarah waved goodbye to her new found friends, and got on the school bus, which headed for home. She was certainly looking forward to the next day of school. "I wonder what will happen tomorrow," Sarah said to herself.

Which belongs to who?

Which dog belongs to which person?



Word search

ADE
ALE
BEER
CIDER
COCOA
COFFEE
COLA
EGGNOG
FIZZ
GRAPE JUICE
LEMONADE

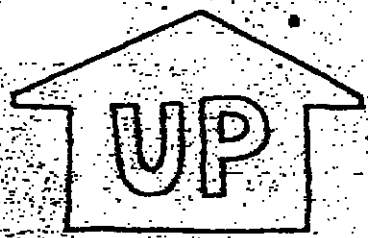
MALT
MILK
MOCHA
NECTAR
ORANGE JUICE
POP
PUNCH
SHAKE
SODA
TEA
WATER
WINE

THIRSTY?

ORANGE JUICE Y L
O L L D K I O P P W I N E
E X S B E E R L J J G O M
X X H O P N E C T A R O O
A C A D D F D G X L L A N
H I K L L A I P P B L A A
C C E T E X C O C O A G D
O W A T E R P O C X V O E
M M M B F F U O F K K N N
O I O T I I N O O F G G O
B B L L Z O C N N H E G O
D A D K Z V H J J I O E E
M M V E C I U J E P A R G

More Opposites

Find the pictures that are opposites. Draw a line.



up



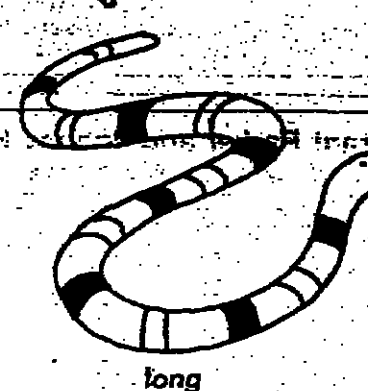
left



right



short



long



down

Just for laughs!

Teacher: "Where's your mum come from Johnnie?"
Johnnie: "Alaska."
Teacher: "Oh never mind, I'll ask her myself."

Teacher: "How does that make you late?"
Boy: "They played extra time."

What kind of watch is best for people who don't like time on their hands?
A pocket watch.

There was this crazy inventor. He said 'Hey, I've invented a way to get an elephant into a matchbox.' 'Blimey,' they said. 'How's it done?' He said, 'The trick is to take the matches out first.'

My teacher at school was so stooped she thought Beethoven's first name was Rose. She'd heard he was a budding composer.

My mum had a leopard-skin coat. I said, 'Whatever you do, don't take it to the cleaners.' She said, 'It needs a clean. It's got to go,' which was stupid. Next time I saw her I said, 'How's your coat?' She said, 'It's spotless.'

Now some stooped jokes about school.

Stooped boy: "Sir, I'm sorry I'm late sir. I was dreaming about football."

Colouring time



Dear Junior Readers,
How was your first week at school? How are your new teachers and the subjects you are studying?
At the beginning of each term, you are usually given a brief revision of the things you already know, usually things you learnt last year. This is your first warning sign, it means, "If you don't keep this knowledge at the back of your mind, you will find yourself in a mess!"
The best thing to do is to read over the work you are given, on the same day. Make sure you know all the spellings of the words you were taught. Ask your parents to dictate each word to you and then check your spellings.
If you are starting with entirely new subjects, like French, History, Geography or basic science, study the topics when you go home. Believe me, it will make life so much easier in the long run.
The human brain has a certain capacity and it has, therefore, tendency to forgetfulness. If you do not repeatedly feed it with knowledge and experience, it will forget things you were so confident you knew. So please try not to take anything for granted.
Manal.

Menu

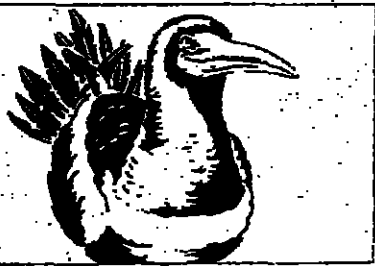
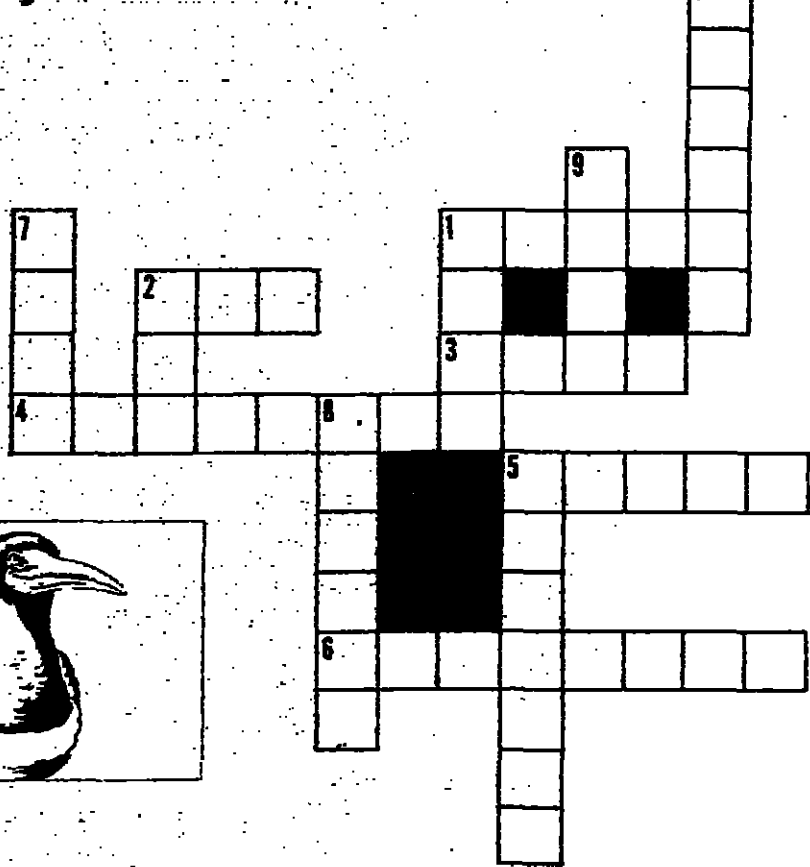
Menu

NAWPR KACCTILO
TROSA EBFE
HIRROKYES DIPGUND
BAGBACE
TOOPSATE
ITRUF DALAS
SHECEE
FECFOE

The chef's menu is all mixed up. Unscramble the letters to find out what he will cook for dinner.



The Booby-Facts and Inferences



Directions: Answer the questions to complete the puzzle.

Across →

- What color is the commonest booby?
- After _____ days, baby boobies are no longer naked.
- Where does a booby waddle?
- In which regions do boobies live?
- Of the 5 senses, which is best in the booby?
- Boobies incubate their eggs by _____ on them.

Down ↓

- When diving, which body part enters the water first?
- Number of eggs a booby lays.
- Booby comes from what kind of a word?
- Boobies have colorful _____.
- How the booby looks when he waddles.
- Soft feathers found on a young bird are called _____.
- The most unusual place to build a nest.

What's in a Name

The answers to the definitions below are all words you can make with the letters in the word WASHINGTON.



- very cold rain
- birds have two of these
- left after a fire
- what George did with a gun
- 2000 pounds
- you do this when you are dirty
- a boy
- this you might do on a star
- music coming from your mouth
- what you have when your skin becomes brown from the sun

Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
The details we need are:

Name: _____
Date of birth: _____
School: _____
Hobbies: _____
Telephone: _____
(confidential)

Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

Send to:
ARAB TIMES

Junior Times
P.O. Box 2270
13023, Safat,
Kuwait

To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date

EVENTS

Flassik cares and shares

By nature Filipinos are generous, hospitable and compassionate. Even before the colonizers set foot on the Philippine Islands, kindness and altruism are virtues that early Filipinos passed on to forthcoming generations. War, succeeding colonisers, a despotic ruler and struggles for a better life amidst a global economic depression did not erase the inherent generosity of the Filipinos. Today, even when they are thousands of miles away from their homeland, these values which they have brought up with, are in concrete evidence.

That is why every Flassik fund-raising project is well-attended by the members of the Filipino community in Kuwait. It is their way of sharing the Almighty's bounties to those who are less endowed and those who meet with unfortunate circumstances while trying to better their economic lot in these foreign shores.

With funds contributed by the Filipino community and the friends of Flassik, the members of the board of Flassik '89 are able to carry out their vital welfare projects which assures needy Filipinos the compassionate attention and assistance given by

Flassik '89 under the dynamic President Grace Fe Covarrubias and her officers.

Flassik '89's focus is its projects under the highly efficient Hospital Coordinating Committee and Welfare Referral Programme. No less than Consul General and Flassik adviser Mrs. Olivia Palala, Labour Attache Lamberto Marin, Legal Officer Loi Cortel and Andy Santos, the Welfare Officer of the local OWWA give their full support and cooperation to these projects.

Meanwhile, Ludovina Nolasco of Laoag City is back at Al Razi hospital recuperating from her second operation at the Farwanah Hospital due to her fractured leg. Flassik well-wishers also visited Remedios Busana who is recovering from surgery at Mubarak Hospital.

No less than Attorney Loi Cortel visited Loida Daton who is recovering from her injuries. Supportive psychotherapy were given to D and L who are undergoing treatment at the psychiatric hospital.

If you have any free time Flassik welcomes your participation in their hospital visits. Just contact any Flassik officer.



Flassik officers at the hospital

KTV 1

- 9.00 The Opening and Holy Quran
9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
9.30 Cartoons
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
10.15 Mawlood Fi Al Waqt
10.30 Al Daye: daily Arabic Serial (Part 10)
11.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
11.15 Achlah Wamlah: local serial (Part 5)
12.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
12.15 Hikayat Maa Al Nojoom: variety programme, with guest star Anwar Wajdi
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran & Closedown

THE EVENING

- 4.00 The Opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite
4.45 Children stories: cartoon serial
5.15 Cartoons

KTV 2

- 5.45 Religious Feature
6.15 Nihayat Saif: Arabic serial (Part 3)
7.15 Night Chemists, Airlines and Official Advertisements
7.45 Special Variety
8.00 Summer 1989: Local Programme, presented by Wafa Taha
8.15 Nadwat Al Osboo: Local Programme
9.00 Arabic News
9.45 Wajeda Wa Samesh: Arabic serial (Part 12)
10.30 Doaa Al Karawan: Arabic Feature Film, starring Faten Hamama, Ahmad Mathbar, Zahra Al Olla and Ameena Rizq
12.15 News Summary
12.20 The World Today via Satellite

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening Announcement & Holy Quran
6.10 Amigo and The Friends: A cartoon series for children
6.30 The Cuckoo Sister, Kite's father remains

doubtful about the reality of "Rosie" and start searching to find the latter's mother.
7.00 Gone Fishing: A look at the world's most popular recreational sport, types of fish, where to find it, how to go there...
7.30 The New Adventures Of Beans Baxter "Bean's Under The Weather": Bean's brother invents a device for controlling the weather. The gang steals the device which proved to be a trap for them...
8.00 News in English
8.30 Different World
9.00 Horizon: "The Greenhouse Effect": A look at what is called the "Effect of the greenhouse" due to increase of carbon dioxide and ozone in the atmosphere and formation of a layer where the sun heat is trapped and subsequently leads to increasing of temperature on earth...
10.00 Hooperman: "The



Long So Long": A police woman colleague refuses to celebrate her birthday occasion... But her colleagues insist on celebrating the occasion...
10.30 The Equalizer: "18 With Bullet": "The Equalizer" plans to put an end to a

10.30 pm — The Equalizer
criminal who exploits and blackmails young girls, singers and artists...
11.30 News in Brief
11.45 Magazine D'Actualite

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

Flassik '89 goes Rock and Roll

FLASSIK '89 says goodbye to the scorchingly hot desert summer and welcomes Kuwait's pleasant autumn weather with an evening of fun in a dance entitled "Rock and Roll, beat of the 60s" which will be held on Friday, September 29, at the Al Jahra ballroom of the Meridien Hotel.

The programme starts at 5 pm and the highlight of the affair is a dance contest of swinging couples dancing to the beat of

rhythmically pulsating dance music. An audition will be held on Friday, September 22, and Sunday, September 24 at 5:00 pm at the Far East Restaurant. Participants are requested to bring their own favourite dance piece. Registration of entries is now going on.

For more information kindly contact: R.C. Ruiz at tel 4819920 or 4849400 ext. 298, Chary Nepomuceno tel. No. 5624509.

Rose Formantes tel. 4812348, Marilyn Inductivo, tel 3940600 ext. 2230 and 4521 and Esther Madamba at tel. 5312700 ext. 4221.

Tickets at KD5 are available at the following outlets: Bobby's Gift Shop, Far East Restaurant, Ambassador Stores, Kabayan Restaurant, Mabuhay Restaurant, and Good Hand Restaurant. Wholesome entertainment, pulsating

music and dinner plus the opportunity to give generously to Flassik's vital welfare projects is a virtual come-on to all. Flassik President Grace Fe Covarrubias announced that the affair is generously sponsored by Don Jayantha Kamnagara of Trico International Forwarding Co., Ltd who will be donating the prizes for the winners which include trophies and other valuable gifts.

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts. Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Photography & oil painting classes
Photography to be taught by Ann C. Eid, a professional photographer with a degree in fine arts, who has taught at the University of Maryland.

Oil painting to be taught by Yasmine Bhatia, a professional artist with a degree in fine arts, who has exhibited her paintings in many countries.

Classes are to be held in Daiya. Limited to only 10 students per class. Register early.

Dates: Photography — Sundays, Oct 7 - Nov 25, 10 am to 1 pm or Wednesdays, Oct 4 - Nov 22, 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Painting: Mondays, Oct 2 - Nov 20, 10 am to 1 pm.

For further details and reservations, please call Yasmine 2540587.

POTTERY AND CRAFTS

Develop your child's creativity in pottery & crafts (8-12 yrs old). Also watercolour painting and jewellery making for adults. For details Tel: 5618847, 5317354, 9 am - 12 noon & 4 - 6.30 pm.

SOCIAL

Nakshi Kathar Maath
The famous Bengali musical play "Nakshi Kathar Maath" (The Field of the Embroidered Quilt) of Bangladeshi poet Jashimuddin will be staged by Mouchak at Starlight Theatre, Doha Entertainment City on Nov 2 and 3. Tel. 5625456, 4893424, 4744490, 4742656, 4315759, for more details.

Ahmedi Musical Society
REHEARSALS for the 1989/90 season will start on Saturday 16th September, at 7.30 pm at the Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmedi. New singers welcome. For further details ring 3912384.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

Pakistan Arts Circle

A SERIES of programmes is being organised by the Pakistan Arts Circle, which includes mushairas, musical varieties, literary discussions, etc.

Families are most welcome. Please register your names on Tel. Nos. 5323693, 5717585 or 4716258.

Vienna Boys Choir
The Vienna Boys Choir will be performing at the Kuwait International Hotel on 26th September at 8:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom. Tickets available at the Reception counter: 2530000/8040. KD8.00 for adults, KD5.00 for child under 12 years.

Contact ladies information
Sept. 23: Contact ladies information will be held on Saturday, Sept 23 at 10 am at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Newcomer's welcome. For details call: 3720197, 4874513, 5388103 (Dennis).

Breeze '89
OCT 26: Tivim Centre's — Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival.

Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casimir or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

Filicheck chess
SEPT 26: The Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filicheck) invites all the Filipino Chess enthusiasts to join the first "Active Chess Tournament."

Attractive prizes await the lucky winners. Entry forms are available at Kabayan Restaurant. Deadline for submission of entries is Sept 15. For more details contact Edward Racaza (2421868, 2402405), Chito (2433961) or Jun (2409650).

Colva Nite

OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ballroom of Ramada Al Salem Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact Tel. 2413884/2434776/5629141/4310913 after 5 pm.

Free Tailoring Class
Kaplanang Filipino sa Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their free tailoring class to all bonafide Kapilku members beginning Friday, September 22 at Far East Restaurant from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon. This self-improvement course is one of the many projects by Kapilku.

The class will run every Friday and end on October 3. All materials needed for the class are given free to all participants. Master cutting, Barong Tagalog and executive suits will be covered in the course. For particulars, please contact Sarah Macarimbang Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs at 4843447. Deadline for registration will be on September 15.

Spoken Arabic

The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training is starting to offer spoken Arabic classes for non-native speakers. The programme, starting in October '89, is for beginners and having intermediate knowledge in colloquial conversation. The registration will start on 16th September, 1989. Those who are interested please contact on telephone Nos. 2413030 Ext. 243, 269, 2455860 Ext 454, 455, 457; 2411383.

Gala
Dec 8: Expatriates Club will hold a gala social for children and adults at the Tent, SAS Hotel. Fifty-five attractive hamper prizes and other gifts will be given away.

Konkani drama
Nov 2, 3: The new GOA presents M. Boyer's "Chintam Zallim Sopanam" at the IAC (Funaites). Cast includes the Charlie Chapin of Goa 'Jacinto Vaz' along with Remy Colaco, Seby Coutinho, Betty Naz and others. Tickets now available. Contact Canary Video (Sharq) or Video Clock (near GPO).

Pakistan Arts Circle
A get-together party will be held at the residence of PAC's Vice-President Farooq Khan, on Thursday, the 21st Sept, 1989 at 8.00 pm.

Families already registered are cordially invited. For further information, please contact tel. 5323693, 5717585, 4848643 or 4716258.

Moods & Melody
"Moods & Melody" performs "Geet Maala" — a presentation of pop songs from Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu films — on 12th October 1989 at Indian Arts Circle auditorium. Funaites at 7.00 pm. For more details contact Tel: 4338579 and 2407418, after 4.00 pm.

Palarong Filipino Annual
All the winners in the just concluded Palarong Filipino organised by the Kaplanang Filipino sa Kuwait (Kapilku) should submit their pictures on or before September 22 to Homer L. Mesina, Vice-President of Media and External Affairs and the Chairman of the 9th Palarong Filipino Souvenir Programme.

For group, the picture must be coloured and the size is 5"x7" with their officials and players and for the individual, it must be coloured and the size is also 5"x7".

Sponsors and donors who may wish to place ads must contact Sarah Macarimbang, Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs at 4843447.

Kapilku Night
The Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their Kapilku Night on Friday, September 29 in Holiday Inn Hotel at 5.00 pm. This singing contest is open to all Filipinos and the competition is divided into two categories, namely, Bagong Kampeon (regular singing contest) and Sing-Alike. The first three winners in each division will receive valuable

prizes from the sponsors. Interested participants are requested to contact VP Sarah Macarimbang the chairperson at 4843447 and Rod Cerezo at 2433595, the co-ordinator.

All previous winners are requested to contact the chairperson for the rehearsal on the forthcoming Grand Final on October 20.

D'Assisi Association
OCTOBER 6: Ninth annual Thanksgiving mass will be held at the Holy Family Cathedral at 8 am followed by a get-together after mass. All D'Assisi students along with their families and friends are invited. For more details contact: 2444379 or 2469811.

Star Nite
DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam 'Al Dir' with Perfect Strangers music. Children's programme at 5 pm from 2-1/2 years to 12 years. Other programmes start with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tel. (res) 5331940 or 2413706 pm only.

British Council
Around the world with Willy Fog: Wednesday, 20 September at 6 pm, Thursday 21 September at 10.30 am (52 min). This is a charming adaptation of Jules Verne's classic novel "Around the World in Eighty Days", with one major difference. All the characters are animals. Willy Fog, an elegant gentleman, offers a bet of half of his fortune that he can go around the world in 80 days. Accompanied by his French valet, Rigodon, and their small companion with a big heart, Tico, they set off in an incredible trip around the world.

HOTELS

Kuwait International
Afternoon Tea: Served at La Patisserie from 3 pm to 6 pm. Offers the finest teas, delicious salmon and cucumber sandwiches, mouth watering pastries and not to forget those delicious scones, strawberry jam and lovely fresh cream. Pianist and harpist in the evenings.

Perrier Promotion: For that tingling taste one can try Perrier Lemon, Perrier Lime, Perrier Lime and fresh kiwi juice, Perrier and apple juice or a variety of other creations. Served in all the outlets.

Fallaka: Daily Chef's Special for lunch and dinner. Special mezzeh buffet on Thursday evenings. Live entertainment during dinner.

La Palma: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Telephone: 2530000/2533000.

SAS

Al Ghazzer: Take the unique opportunity and experience the old Kuwaiti seafaring traditions. Have an exhilarating trip

on our superb dhow "Al Ghazzer." Available for full day and half day trip along the Gulf coastline. For bookings, please call up 5657000 ext 416.

Al Boom: Come on board Al Boom and have a feast. Try our freshly baked Arabic bread, extensive mezzeh buffet and wide selections of grilled items or take your pick from our daily Al Boom specials. Take your della coffee and relax at the diwan or enjoy a puff at the bubble pipe. For reservations, please call up 5657000 ext. 403 and 340.

Peacock Room: visit the Far East with SAS, visit our Peacock Room. Offers wide varieties of delectable Chinese specialties. Open for lunch and dinner daily. For reservations pls call 5657000 ext 403 or 532.

Bistretto: Have a taste of Italy. Visit the Bistretto, SAS hotel's specialty restaurant. Offers great tasting pastas, pizzas and other Italian favourites. Continental and international are also available. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. We also have brunch every Friday.

Clock: Drive through the Clock and order your choice fast food items. Juicy burgers, chicken tikka, crispy French fries and lots of other items we can serve you on the dot.

At the Holiday Inn

At the coffee shop: A variety of continental and oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner at KD5.000 per pax and half price for children.

Al Andalus: Thursday, Arabian night. Savour the exotic food especially prepared for the night. Our local entertainers provide wonderful music.

Family brunch: Friday, a wholesome day for the children. Bring along your kid and enjoy entertainment from Walt Disney cartoon characters and magic by the great magician. Prizes and surprises awaits each kid. Price: KD5.000 for adults, and half per kid.

At the swimming pool: From 8:30 pm have a great night out by the pool to soothe the summer heat. Barbecue, music, games, prizes and surprises awaits each one. Bring your family 'n friends 'n savour our delicious Sharazad barbecue, at KD5.500 per pax and KD2.750 per child.

Meridien
OUR new Versailles menu: The Versailles Restaurant celebrates the new season with an exciting new a la Carte menu featuring delicious new seafood dishes and always the great value business. Enjoy a truly elegant and dining experience with the fine cuisine and atmosphere. International music is provided by Jo Lee a veritable One Woman Band is guaranteed to help to make a dinner at the Versailles truly a night to remember.

La Brasserie: New menu at the La Brasserie... definitely worth the wait. The new a la Carte menu at the La Brasserie features a terrific choice of appetizer, entree and dessert. In addition to a lavish buffet with

different starters various hot dishes and mouthwatering desserts. And remember the buffet changes daily for the guests.

Every Saturday Thai corner: Enjoy genuine Thai cuisine at the La Brasserie the Thai Corner features a variety of great authentic dishes in addition to the restaurants regular lavish buffet.

Every Sunday cowboy night: Taste the Texas fare at the La Brasserie no compromise with this salute to the US includes live foot tappin country and Western music plus decor costumes and ambience with more than a touch of the real Wild West.

Every Wednesday the Indonesian corner: Enjoy some of the country's best loved dishes at the La Brasserie in addition to the regular Brasserie buffet.

Every Thursday evening the jazz night: Tuck in the tempo... experience an evening of the great jazz sound in jam session at the La Brasserie featuring delicious sea food buffet with that catch of the day freshness plus a range of local and international dishes.

Every Friday family lunch: Friday equals family fun only at La Brasserie... lavish buffet... live entertainment toys and gifts for the children and even some real magic.

Achieving new heights in good taste: New menu at Al Fintas Club, super choice of low calories snacks, sandwiches and salads with tasty, good health appeal, especially when preceded by a few laps in the adjacent rooftop swimming pool.

Al Fingan (tea lounge): Stay on top and stay cool with our milkshakes promotion: As from the 17th to the 28th Sept there will be lots of variety of delicious milkshake flavours: mango, chocolate, banana, strawberry... there can a little more refreshing on a scorching summer day than a mouth-watering milkshake whipped up Meridien style why not make it a daily treat.

Al Waha palace: Pasta promotion at Al Waha palace at the Salsia Commercial Complex till the 26th Sept pasta for night. Enjoy a La Carte and daily special pasta dishes like fettucine ravioli, tortellini, ssalad pasta, and more. Discover why pasta is Italy's national dish while enjoying Al Waha's pavement where you can watch the world go by while experiencing the superb cuisine and gracious service that typifies Meridien.

SPORTS

Ballet
STEPS school of Dance, is affiliated with the Royal Academy of Dance, London. Girls of all ages can learn classical ballet or modern dance. There is an adult jazz course for ladies, and a gymnastics course for children. For registration and more details, please contact the Kuwait English School from 3 to 7 pm on weekdays, or Thursday mornings.

Kuwait Nomads R.F.C.
(Rugby Football Club). We

are looking for wings, props, centres or any other positions to join the Gulf's most successful team. Training is on Sunday and Tuesday 7.00 - 9.00 pm. For details/directions phone Graham Adams at 5644533 or Steve Hutchinson at 3721540.

Boys Own Club
Boys Own Club are happy to announce that entries are open for the 5th Annual Seven-A-Side Football Festival to be held on 12th October 1989, at Sour Ground.

This tournament has been sponsored by Tony White, general manager of M/S Kuwait British Ready Mix Co.

Teams wishing to enter this tournament can, contact Joe D'Souza on Tel. 4813622/25 ext. 147.

Football League
Anybody interested in joining a soccer league, preferably already belonging to a team, please call Bob or Alan on 5386444.

KOSA open day
Sept. 22: KOSA open day will be held this Friday at the Shaah yacht marina commencing at 2 pm. For details please call Craig Ross on 2452880 (W) 533 0509 (H).

At the MBH
ASA swimming classes for children/adults, beginners/intermediate. Classes start Sept 23, 1989. For registration and details please contact Messilah Beach Hotel on 5624111 ext. 739 or 751.

Windsurfing classes: Messilah Beach Hotel is organising a windsurfing classic on Oct 6, 1989. Open to all men and women sailors in Kuwait. Closing date for entries is 1.10.89. For more details contact Ken Balmain on 5624111 ext 739/751.

Tennis classes: Messilah Beach Hotel Tennis classes will be resuming beginning of Oct 89 for adults and children, to reserve a place phone 5624111 ext. 739/751.

Ballet classes: Messilah Beach Hotel Ballet classes for girls will be resuming late Sept 89, to reserve a place 5624111 ext. 739/751.

At the Holiday Inn Health Club and Recreation Centre
Swimming lessons available all year round with qualified swimming instructors. Open to non-members. Mon-Tues-Wed 3.30 to 5.30, beginners-improvers-adults mixed keep fit classes, Wed 5-6 Thurs 6-7, Fri 12-1.30 and 1-2.00, Sat 5-6.00. Ladies keep fit, Mon 5-6, Tues 5-6, Fri 5-6 and Sun 5.30-6.30.

Martial arts w/black belt instructor Mon-Wed 6-ton taekwondo Sat-Mon 7-8 Thurs 5-6. Bowling alley available for private company and community tournaments. Five squash courts.

Squash handicap every Sunday start 6 pm — all standards, open to non-members. Squash, coaching available from professional coach everyday, from 1 pm. Massage for men and women. Gym facilities for men and women. Tennis courts — coaching available.

Plus lots more. Phone for further details — Recreation Manager, 4742000 Ext 6788 Julie Dent or 6700 Recreation.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Ahlam Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem Street, Al Motahabeh Souq
Al Sharq Al Jaded Pharmacy
Safat Souq, Opposite to the Scientific Museum
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Ikhas Pharmacy
Nagra, Beirut Street, Opposite to Al Andalus Cinema
Salma and Rumanthiya
Al Rasd Pharmacy
Rumanthiya, Ahman Street, Property of Jassim Abdullah, Fakhro and Alwadi
Al Ezzan Pharmacy
Fahad Al Dabous Street, Property of Faisal Al Dabous
Jaleel Al Shuyookh
Al Sahana Pharmacy
Jaleel Al Shuyookh, Main Street, Block 2
Jahra
Al Najah Pharmacy
Al Jahra Area, The Fourth Area, Bader Al Somait Company

Al Andalus
Dragnet
Salma
Hadi Booked
Al Hama
Wild Force
Drive-In
Arabic film
Al Firdous
Ganga Tara Desh Mein
Fahad Open
Dharam Yudh
Dharam Yudh
Fahad
Thor the Conqueror
Al Jahra
Banjaran
Granada
Isabella
Messilahkat
No Dead Heroes
Jaleel
Sona Bon
Ahmedi Drive-In
Arabic film

Radio Programmes

FM Services
Morning
0800 Opening
0802 Songs and Music
0830 News
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Bands with a beat
0930 Songs and Music
1000 Our Pies Today
1005 Songs and Music
1030 Pick of the Pope
1100 Closedown
1330 News on FM Service

Evening
2100 Opening
2102 The Young Sound
2130 News
2145 Point of View

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.15am
Zuhr	11.41
Asr	3.11pm
Maghreb	5.50
Isha	7.08

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

MARKET PLACE

ACCOMMODATION

Available

KUWAIT City, behind the Sheraton Hotel. Accommodation in a single room with tele. facilities for an Indian bachelor. Tel. 2423809, 8 am - 130 pm, 6 - 9 pm. (AT4-49447-2)

OFF Juleb, Al Shiyook petrol pump. Accommodation in a 2 bedroom flat for an Indian bachelor to share with an Indian family. Tel. 4313103 after 10 am. (AT3-49395-3)

SHARQ, behind the Fire Station. One room for a couple, two or single bachelor (Indians only) single, bachelor preferred. Tel. 247639. (AT4-49435-3)

JABRIYA, opp. Fourth Ring road. Accommodation with all necessary facilities for bachelors. Tel. Alwyn 2415493 (off) 8 am - 130 pm, 5334736 (res) after 2 pm. (AT2-49395-3)

SALMIYA, near the garden, 2 bedroom spacious flat with carpet, curtains available from 1st October for a family or bachelors. Rent KD120. Tel. 5813358. (AT4-49412-2)

KUWAIT City, near the Roman Catholic Church accommodation for a lady to share with another lady. Tel. 262719, 8 am - 5 pm or 2407380 after 530 pm. (AT3-49395-2)

KUWAIT City, near the Carlton Hotel, 3 room apartment, 2nd floor with AC, cupboards, beds, 3 pieces sofaset. Present rent KD110. Tel. 2413706, 2-830 pm. (AT2-49375-3)

QADISIYA, House No. 5, Street No. 86, Block No. 8, 4 rooms for families or bachelors. Contact Mr. Abdul Majeed personally after 430 pm. (AT3-49395-3)

SALMIYA, accommodation in a one bedroom flat for a Pakistani bachelor to share with another bachelor. Tel. 5749046, 5745064 Mr. Akber. (AT3-49405-3)

SALWA, near the Camel School. Independent room with water, electricity and tele. facilities for an Indian bachelor or working lady. Rent, KD45. Tel. 5619845, 5650890. (AT4-49379-3)

SALWA, House No. 195, Block No. 7, Nachi Al Jabbar St. One room with kitchen facilities for a family or bachelor to share with an Indian family, KD50. Tel. Mr. Ali 5811243. (AT3-49401-3)

FARWANIYA, near the Holiday Inn. One room with water, electricity and tele. facilities for an Indian or Pakistani family to share with a small Muslim family. Tel. 4743129. (AT4-49413-2)

For Rent

SURRA, deluxe villa, ground floor near the American and English schools. 4 bedrooms with CAC, separate entrance, 2 kitchens, carpets and curtain, including a garden. Tel. Mr. Saleh, 5317132. (AT2-49373-3)

SALWA, near the Sultan Center, new 2 flats CAC, each consists of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen with separate entrance. Tel. Mr. Fahed, 2421919, 8 am - 3 pm. (AT4-49428-3)

SABAH Al Salem near 6th Ring Road, New villa, CAC, 4 bedrooms, 3 halls, servants quarter, garden and garage. Rent KD500. Tel. Bader 5324648. (AT4-49426-3)

MAHBOULA, Letifa Complex 3 bedroom duplex apartments to let with or without furniture. Rent KD550 pm inclusive water and electricity. Tel. Mr. McKiernan, 5627641, 5627652, 8 am - 4 pm. (AT4-49408)

FOR SALE

Computers

TANDY 1000 EX 1988, IBM compatible, joystick, 12 printer, software, disk in excellent condition KD400. Tel. 3983471 after 4 pm. (AT2-49363-3)

REQUIRED

Lady tailors for a shop

Contact tel: 2662444 from 10 am to 9 pm

Cars

MITSUBISHI Colt 1988, KD1500 cash, one. Or KD200 cash, KD50 per month by instalments Tel. 5657741 - 9039411. (AT2-49383-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant GLX 1986, AC, manual, 49,000 kms. Dark grey, in very good condition. KD1,500 cash. Tel. 3983471 after 4 pm. (AT2-49363-3)

AUSTIN Montego (Vanden Plas) 1987, AC, fully automatic white, low mileage, in immaculate condition. Best offer. Tel. Krishna, 4813233 mornings, 2427557 evenings, 5639394 res. 730 am to 1030 pm. (AT3-49396-3)

TOYOTA Corolla 1984, white with AC, 77,000 kms. Registered upto May 1990 in excellent condition KD600 cash. Tel. 2424486. (AT2-49370-3)

MERCEDES 280-S, 1984 model, 87,000 kms off-white with light grey interior, full options, in excellent condition. Tel. 9020552. (AT2-49392-3)

CADILLAC Biaritz, 1981, grey with red leather interior. Full options, 78,700 kms. Registered upto March 1990 in good condition KD1150 cash. Tel. Jack, 5719810. (AT3-49376-3)

CHEVROLET Impala 1981, white, AC, automatic in good condition KD700 cash. Tel. 5644202, 230 - 830 pm only. (AT2-49368-3)

VOLVO 240GL 1984 model, automatic, regularly maintained, in excellent condition KD1550. Tel. 5749038. (AT4-49403-3)

RANGE Rover 1983 automatic, regularly maintained, power steering, good stereo in excellent condition KD1800. Tel. 5749038. (AT4-49403-3)

DATSUN 280C 79 model, manual with AC, registered upto August '90, cream colour KD650. Tel. Benjamin, 2463243/4. (AT4-49405-2)

SERVICES

Tuition

REQUIRED tuition for a student taking SAT & achievement tests in November '89. Tel. 4749574. (AT4-49440-3)

PIAZZA XL Coupe 1985, white, fully automatic with OD, fuel injection, cruise control, power steering, front & rear disc brakes, AC. Lady owner, in showroom condition KD1,650. Tel. 4884485. (AT2-49369-3)

PAJERO 188, manual in excellent condition KD3,850. Tel. 2642804 after 5 pm. (AT2-49364-3)

NISSAN Stanza 82, 90,000 kms, fully automatic, AC, stereo, registered upto 14th Sept 1990 in excellent condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. Best offer. Tel. Mr. Shabbir, 2418349, (off), 5612485 (res). (AT4-49425-2)

Miscellaneous

ORIGINAL dynamo for Dodge KD10, air condition, evaporator unit with compressor for Mercedes 200 KD60. Tel. Mr. Mansoor, 2424561. (AT2-49348-3)

SOFASET C3+2, dining table, central table and aquarium. Tel. 5712734. (AT4-49427-2)

BUNGALOW including contents, Salwa Area 6, 3 bedrooms, large garden, central AC, car porch. Rent KD350 excluding electricity and water. Tel. 5642599 after 3 pm. (AT4-49397-2)

3 pieces living room suite, Scandinavian teak in very good condition, KD150. Tel. 5313007, 830 am - 245 pm. (AT2-49382-3)

SALMIYA in an ideal location flat, furnished in a new building with sea-view, hardly used in excellent condition for sale. Suitable for a couple. Highest offer. Tel. 5758655/6 off: 5721393 res. after 10 pm. (AT3-49390-3)

SINGLE, double bedrooms in I.C. Colony Borivill, area 600 sq. ft. fully repainted and wiring concealed very near boys/girls school, market, bus depot. Tel. Stanley, 4764182. (AT3-49396-3)

FOR RENT

Plots for sale

2 adjacent plots each 10 marlas in Rabwah (Pak). Please contact Tel: 2438120.

FOR SALE

One fibreglass boat USA made

Mercurius outboard engines 115 HP each length 28 ft. One fibreglass boat USA made Mercurius outboard engines 85 HP each length 18 ft. One Wellcraft sports model 31 ft. long without engine. One fibreglass boat Mercurius outboard engine 55 HP length 16 ft. Kindly contact: 2562865, 0800 - 1230 hours.

WANTED

Female Secretary

Must know English typing and tele. Applications presented to Kuwait Perfumes Factory, Sebban, Block 1, Plot 150 Tel: 4748667, 4740548

WANTED

We need Sri Lankan, Indian and Filipino maids.

Must have valid transferable residence. Call Tel. 2434763 - 2434785 Salmiya Bldg. - First floor - apartment No. 5 Beside Ministry of Information old building - Kuwait City

FOR RENT

SAWA: 3-Brm flats with pool & maid's room

KD 475/-

SAWA: 4-Brm flat in Salwa Complex with facilities KD 800/-

MASILLAH: 3-Brm villa with pool and garden KD 650/-

MESURE: 4-Brm villa with garden and garage KD 650/-

BIDA: 5-Brm villa with basement close to beach KD 800/-

BAYAN: 4-Brm split level villa with pool and garden KD 1200/-

Plus many more flats & villas

Call: Boushahri Real Estate Est.

Tel: 5744017-5744018

Suprema scale your friend

For accurate weighing of your goods. We have from 1 kg to 10,000 kg scales with parts and reliable maintenance workshop.

Sole Agents: (For 25 years in Kuwait & Gulf) Ibrahim & Mohd S. Al-Farhan Trading Co. Opposite to: Ministry of Education Bldg. Commercial Centre No. 9 Telephone: 2422966 - 2442763 4849259 - Shuwaikh Branch Tel: 48071 - Fax: 2403874

ENROLL NOW!

Contact: Paul Woodland (Recreation Manager) Tel: 2530000/8050

WANTED

Technician for repairing power tools, air-compressors, welding machines.

Tel. 4831992

WANTED

A/C Technicians and Helpers

With at least 5 years' experience. Tel. office, 2657800 from 8 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8 pm.

WANTED

An experienced Accountant for a hardware shop.

Tel. 4831992

WANTED

Executive secretary/office asst. male, highly experienced in self-correspondence, shorthand, typing, fax, tele. banking, L/Cs, cargo clearing formalities, with transferable visa. Tel. 2419420 (mornings) 5659527 (evening).

(AT4-49429-3)

WANTED

English/Arabic speaking Sri Lankan maid available, well experienced. Tel. Aranda, 4738456, 4746780, 8 am - 5 pm.

(AT3-49391-3)

WANTED

Secretary (female) with full knowledge of typing, tele. fax, computers, seeking part-time (mornings) or straight working hours. Tel. Jethender Kumar, 5636027 or write to P.O. Box 545, Safat, Kuwait.

(AT3-49399-2)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

(AT2-49380-3)

WANTED

English/Arabic speaking Sri Lankan maid available, well experienced. Tel. Aranda, 4738456, 4746780, 8 am - 5 pm.

(AT3-49391-3)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

(AT2-49380-3)

WANTED

Executive secretary/office asst. male, highly experienced in self-correspondence, shorthand, typing, fax, tele. banking, L/Cs, cargo clearing formalities, with transferable visa. Tel. 2419420 (mornings) 5659527 (evening).

(AT4-49429-3)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

(AT2-49380-3)

ENGLISH tutoring available with an experienced American lady for children 5-12 years old. Tel. 5634040, 12 noon - 6 pm. (AT3-49387-3)

PRIVATE coaching in French language. Tel. 4741782. (AT2-49372-3)

AVAILABLE in maths, physics and chemistry O-level, A-level and higher classes (Std IX to Std XII) behind GPO in Kuwait City. Tel. 2422246. (AT3-49251-2)

KINDERGARTEN Nursery for LKG - UKG, 5 days a week in Salmiya, opp. Junior Indian School. Tel. 5632216. (AT2-49367-3)

PRE-SCHOOL training in English in Fahheel available for children 2 1/2 to 4 years given by experienced post graduates. Tel. 3924109 after 1 pm. (AT4-49439-3)

ARABIC teacher (female) can teach Arabic for non-Arabs morning time. Tel. 2648866, 5 - 10 pm. (AT4-49439-3)

Baby Sitting

RELIABLE and disciplined child care and babysitting available with an experienced lady in Fahheel near the Sadat Pharmacy. Tel. Sheela, 3920763. (AT4-49430-3)

AVAILABLE in main Salmiya behind the Mercedes Showroom with an experienced lady from 5 am - 1 pm. Tel. Khairy, 2261353, 4 pm - 11 pm. (AT2-49377-3)

Transport

REQUIRED from Salmiya to Surra, 730 am and 130 am. Tel. James, Tel. 4839753 from 9 am - 1 pm, 4 - 7 pm. (AT4-49442-2)

REQUIRED for a single person from Salmiya, Salim Al-Musarak Street (near the Mercedes Showroom) to A. Surra (American School) 815 am and return 245 pm. Tel. 5313007, 830 am - 245 pm. (AT2-49381-3)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

MAID required for an Indian family to live-in. Must speak English. Tel. 5635401, 9 am - 12 noon. (AT4-49436-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool

Qatar Real Estate Tel. 2406592, 2406593

FOR SALE

One fibreglass boat USA made

Mercurius outboard engines 115 HP each length 28 ft. One fibreglass boat USA made Mercurius outboard engines 85 HP each length 18 ft. One Wellcraft sports model 31 ft. long without engine. One fibreglass boat Mercurius outboard engine 55 HP length 16 ft. Kindly contact: 2562865, 0800 - 1230 hours.

WANTED

Technician for repairing power tools, air-compressors, welding machines.

Tel. 4831992

WANTED

A/C Technicians and Helpers

With at least 5 years' experience. Tel. office, 2657800 from 8 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8 pm.

WANTED

An experienced Accountant for a hardware shop.

Tel. 4831992

WANTED

Executive secretary/office asst. male, highly experienced in self-correspondence, shorthand, typing, fax, tele. banking, L/Cs, cargo clearing formalities, with transferable visa. Tel. 2419420 (mornings) 5659527 (evening).

(AT4-49429-3)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

(AT2-49380-3)

WANTED

Executive secretary/office asst. male, highly experienced in self-correspondence, shorthand, typing, fax, tele. banking, L/Cs, cargo clearing formalities, with transferable visa. Tel. 2419420 (mornings) 5659527 (evening).

(AT4-49429-3)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

(AT2-49380-3)

WANTED

Executive secretary/office asst. male, highly experienced in self-correspondence, shorthand, typing, fax, tele. banking, L/Cs, cargo clearing formalities, with transferable visa. Tel. 2419420 (mornings) 5659527 (evening).

(AT4-49429-3)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

(AT2-49380-3)

WANTED

Executive secretary/office asst. male, highly experienced in self-correspondence, shorthand, typing, fax, tele. banking, L/Cs, cargo clearing formalities, with transferable visa. Tel. 2419420 (mornings) 5659527 (evening).

(AT4-49429-3)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

(AT2-49380-3)

WANTED

Executive secretary/office asst. male, highly experienced in self-correspondence, shorthand, typing, fax, tele. banking, L/Cs, cargo clearing formalities, with transferable visa. Tel. 2419420 (mornings) 5659527 (evening).

(AT4-49429-3)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

(AT2-49380-3)

WANTED

Executive secretary/office asst. male, highly experienced in self-correspondence, shorthand, typing, fax, tele. banking, L/Cs, cargo clearing formalities, with transferable visa. Tel. 2419420 (mornings) 5659527 (evening).

(AT4-49429-3)

WANTED

Parrot green with black and pink markings around the neck lost in Salmiya. Finder, please Tel. Mr. Jim Bottom, 4845507/4845560 (off), 5642099 (res).

Baldi and Acheson finish first in Belgium

MERCEDES, Porsche and Nissan claimed the top three places in the seventh round of the World Sports-prototype championship at Spa-Francorchamps, Belgium on Sunday. Mauro Baldi (Italy) and Kenny Acheson (GB) won the 480-kilometre (300-mile) race in their Sauber-Mercedes C9, and the Italian boosted his chances of overhauling his team-mate and rival, Jean Louis Schlesser, for the driver's championship.

Schlesser's lead in the championship narrowed to five points as his Sauber-Mercedes ran out of fuel 600 metres short of the finishing line, and under the FIA regulations the Parisian is not classified as a finisher. He and Jochen Mass had run second to Baldi and Acheson almost from the start, but a misreading of just half a litre on the fuel computer brought the silver car to a stop on the uphill run to the flag.

The first hour of the race saw a superb battle between Sauber Mercedes, the team which won the World Championship at Donington on September 3, the Nissan of Julian Bailey and Mark Blundell, the Toyota of Johnny Dumfries and Geoff Lees, and the two turbocharged Jaguar XJR-11s.

Up there too were the Spice Cosworths built by the specialist constructor, Gordon Spice, at Silverstone. Gradually Baldi pulled clear of Schlesser and the rival Marques, and was out of the lead only briefly during the refuelling stops.

In brilliant sunshine which contrasted with the dull, wet weather prevailing during qualifying, Bob Wollek and Frank Jelinski put their joint racing Porsche 962C into a strong position in the last hour, and moved into second place when Schlesser's car came to a premature stop.

US take step closer to World Cup finals

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, Sept 18, (AP) — The United States took a step closer to the World Cup soccer finals in Italy next year with a 1-0 victory yesterday over El Salvador in a qualifying match for the North, Central American and Caribbean Soccer Confederation (Concacaf).

In the 62nd minute, Hugo Perez, a naturalised American originally from El Salvador, scored the only goal with a sharp header past Salvadoran goalkeeper Carlos Rivera.

The goal, in front of 3,700 fans in the 40,000-capacity Tiburcio Carías Andino Honduran national stadium, followed a first half dominated by the United States.

The American players appeared to be tiring as Eric Eichmann was brought off the bench to replace a flagging John Stollmeyer.

El Salvador was unable to score and the loss ended their chance for a place in the 1990 World Cup finals, with just one point after five games.

The US team, with seven points after yesterday's victory, and three more games to play, has boosted its chances of joining either Costa Rica or Trinidad and Tobago for one of the two Concacaf spots in Italy.

"I feel better about my team winning than about scoring a goal against El Salvador," Perez said after the game.

The US has away matches left to play against Guatemala on Oct 8, and a tough final match against Trinidad and Tobago in Port-au-Prince on Nov 18. A home return match against El Salvador is scheduled for Nov 5, in St Louis, Missouri.

El Salvador were banned from holding Cup games by Fifa after crowd violence in San Salvador disrupted a qualifier against Costa Rica earlier this year.

Costa Rica lead the standings with 11 points and all eight matches played, followed by Trinidad and Tobago with nine points and a single game left against the United States.

Guatemala, with two points after five games also has no chance of qualifying.

In other games yesterday, Uruguay beat Bolivia 2-0 in South America Group One and Colombia beat Paraguay 2-1 in South America Group Two.

Colombia 2, Paraguay 1 at Barranquilla. Colombia, Alfredo Mendoza gave Paraguay the lead with one minute remaining in the first half but Arnoldo Iguarun tied it 10 minutes into the second half and Ruben Dario Hernandez put Colombia ahead with 24 minutes remaining.

Paraguay (2-1) must win at Ecuador next Sunday to advance. Colombia (2-1-1) would advance if Paraguay ties or loses.

Uruguay 2, Bolivia 0 at Montevideo. Uruguay, Ruben Sosa scored in the 31st minute and Enzo Francescoli scored eight minutes later.

Uruguay (2-1) must beat Peru (0-3) next Sunday in Montevideo in order to win the group.

Bolivia (3-1-1) had beaten Uruguay 2-1 at home on Sept 3. If Uruguay beats Peru, Bolivia would be eliminated on goal differential.

Bolivia played two men short in the second half after referee Gaston Castro of Chile ejected Erwin Sanchez and Ricardo Fontana.

Roche remains in 3rd place

HOCKENHEIM, West Germany, Sept 18, (Reuters) — Frenchman Raymond Roche won both eighth round races in the World Superbike Championship yesterday, but still lagged in third place overall behind Stephane Mertens of Belgium.

Roche, who had never won a world championship event before June when he swept two races in the US round, seized another double victory on his red Ducati, clocking 30 minutes 30.94 seconds in the first race and 30:22.08 in the second.

Watched by a crowd of 20,000, the Frenchman boosted his season's tally to 172 points, but with three rounds to go in the series he remained 23 points behind Mertens, who was runner-up in the first race and came third in the second.

Giants edge Padres

Expos overcome Mets

NEW YORK, Sept 18, (AP) — Kevin Mitchell homered twice and increased his Major-League leading total to 45 as the San Francisco Giants beat the San Diego Padres 5-3 in the first game of yesterday's doubleheader.

San Francisco boosted its National League West lead to six games over the Padres with 13 games remaining. Scott Garrelts, 14-3, won his eighth consecutive decision for the giants.

Mitchell homered off Mark Grand leading off the fourth inning and hit a two-out homer off Pat Clements in the seventh. It was his sixth multiple-homer game of the season and gave him 120 RBIs.

Pirates 2, Cubs 0 Doug Drabek defeated Chicago for the third time in four decisions. Pittsburgh has won seven of eight against the Cubs.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

hits in 71-3 innings and drove in a run as St Louis won the second game. In the first game, John Kruk hit a two-out, Grand Slam in the 12th off Matt Kinzer, 0-2.

St Louis has lost seven of its last nine, falling five games behind Chicago, the National League East leaders.

Carpenter, 4-4, struck out five and walked none. John Costello got the last out for his second save.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

St Louis took the lead in the fifth on Milt Thompson's RBI single off Ken Howell, 11-12.

Dennis Cook, 6-7, won the first game.

Expos 1, Mets 0

Mark Langston pitched a three-hitter to win for the second time in seven starts. Langston, 12-7, struck out nine and walked five in his fourth National League shutout and sixth complete game.

Ron Darling, 13-13, gave up six hits and one run in seven innings, striking out four and walking none. He allowed Tim Lincecum's RBI single in the fifth.

Dodgers 4, Braves 3

Rick Dempsey hit a leadoff home run off Joe Boever, 4-10, in the 11th inning and Eddie Murray had hit first four-hit game in the National League.

Alejandro Pena, 4-3, pitched two perfect innings for the victory.

Astros 1, Reds 0

Mark Portugal, 6-1, pitched a five-hitter for his first career shutout and struck out nine. Tom Browning, 15-12, has his eight-game winning streak against Houston snapped.

Ken Caminiti homered to leadoff the fifth, sending Cincinnati to its seventh straight loss. Red Sox 7, Athletics 6

Nick Esasky homered for his 100th run batted in and the Boston Red Sox beat Oakland, completing a three-game sweep of the American League West leaders.

Oakland's lead was cut to 2 and 1-2 games by both Kansas

City and California. The Athletics, who went 5-7 against Boston this season, had not been swept in a three-game series since June 26-28 in Minnesota. The Red Sox had lost eight straight games before the Athletics came to Fenway Park.

Blue Jays 2, Indians 1

Fred McGriff took advantage of an open left field, lofting a run-scoring single in the 10th inning as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Cleveland Indians for a three-game sweep.

The Blue Jays increased their American League East lead to 2 and 1-2 games over Baltimore.

Angeles 6, White Sox 3

Mike Witt won for just the second time in eight decisions and the California Angels beat the Chicago White Sox for their seventh victory in nine games. The Angels moved to within 2 and 1-2 games of first-place Oakland in the American League West.

Results

American League

Boston 7, Oakland 6

Seattle 7, New York 0

Kansas City 7, Baltimore 0

Toronto 2, Cleveland 0

Detroit 9, Minnesota 2

California 6, Chicago 2

Texas 6, Milwaukee 2

National League

(1st) Philadelphia 9, St Louis 5

(2nd) St Louis 2, Philadelphia 0

Montreal 1, New York 0

Pittsburgh 2, Chicago 0

Houston 1, Cincinnati 0

(1st) St. Francisco 5, San Diego 3

(2nd) San Diego 6, San Francisco 1

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3

Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 3



Naim lifting 145 kg in the snatch event. (Reuters wirephoto)

Naim wins third world title

ATHENS, Sept 18, (Reuters) — Turkey's Olympic weightlifting champion Naim Suleymanoglu easily won his third world title yesterday despite under-training.

Naim, nicknamed "The Pocket Hercules," was in a class of his own in the featherweight (up to 60 kg) division on the second day of the World Championships.

He lifted 145 kg in the snatch and 172.5 kg for a total of 317.5 kg, 10 kg ahead of Bulgarian Nikolai Pesharov.

Naim was ready to try a snatch world record of 153 kg only to discover the new rules said that the record of 152.5 kg had to be improved by at least 2.5 kg.

Weightlifting's superstar shrugged his shoulders and left the arena, admitting 155 kg was too much even for him.

Naim, a defector from Bulgaria, sang happily and loudly on the rostrum as Turkey's national anthem was played.

Then he denied rumours he planned to retire. "I am winning and I enjoy it fully," he said. "I am not fed up yet. When a guy comes along who is able to beat me, then I may contemplate quitting."

"This year I have trained for only three months and nobody was close to me here, so I think it would be foolish not to go on."

McCallister birdies final holes for title

SUTTON, Mass., Sept 18, (Reuters) — Blaine McCallister birdied the final two holes yesterday to win the \$700,000 Boston Classic golf tournament with a 72-hole score of 13-under-par 271, one stroke ahead of Brad Faxon.

Third-round leader Don Pooley finished with a one-under-par 70 yesterday and was one of three people tied for third at 11-under-par 273. Joining him there was defending champion Mark Calcavecchia and Chris Perry.

Nick Price of Zimbabwe fired a course-record nine-under-par 62 and finished in a tie for sixth at 10-under-par 274. Price won \$22,663.

McCallister, who lost this tournament in a playoff in 1986 to Gene Sauer, began the final round three shots behind Don Pooley, but pulled into a tie for the lead after a birdie on the 10th hole.

He took over the top spot with a 25-foot birdie putt on the 412-yard 17th hole. He then stretched the lead with a short four footer for birdie on the par-five 18th.

"I told my caddy on the 17th hole that we need to try and finish 3-4 and darned if we didn't do just that," said McCallister. "Three years ago losing here proved to me that Blaine McCallister could play on the Tour. This is something I'll cherish for a long time."

McCallister finished about 30 minutes ahead of Faxon and was forced to watch while Faxon lined up a 12-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole to force a playoff. Faxon missed the putt to the right and McCallister took home the \$126,000 first-place prize and his second win of the season.

He finished with a bogey free round of five-under-par 66 yesterday. Faxon, a local favourite who trailed a large gallery of family and friends behind him, finished alone in second place at 12-under-par 272 and won \$75,600. He closed with a two-under-par 69.

Daniel triumphs easily

KENT, Wash., Sept 18, (Reuters) — Beth Daniel romped to a six-stroke victory — her third tour title of the year — and the \$45,000 first-place cheque at a LPGA golf tournament yesterday.

Cindy Rarick, who began the day seven-strokes behind Daniel, was a distant second with a final round 69 yesterday. Pat Bradley was third at 280.

Betsy King, Jane Geddes and Juli Inkster finished tied at fourth place.

Daniel, who began the day four strokes in front of Bradley at 13-under-par, birdied two holes on the front nine to make the turn with a five-stroke lead over Rarick after Bradley had faded.

"For most of my round I was playing for second because of

Beth's big lead," Rarick said. "When I got to 10-under-par, I started thinking something could happen although Beth has been playing so well."

Rarick birdied her 13th hole after shanking a wedge. "I could not believe it," Rarick said. "I haven't hit a wild shot in this entire tournament until that hole."

Daniel scrambled a bit on the first two holes, hooking the tee shots.

"It was kind of scary at first," Daniel said. "I never felt comfortable until the last four holes."

France-Lions match loses bicentenary tag

AGEN, France, Sept 18, (Reuters) — The rugby union match between France and the British Lions, due to be held on October 4 as part of the celebrations for the 200th anniversary of the French revolution, will not enjoy official bicentenary status.

The French Rugby Federation (FFR) said today it believed the decision by bicentenary organisers not to recognise the match as part of this year's festivities was a reprisal for this summer's tour of South Africa by an international team including eight French players.

The federation, which has billed the match for months as a bicentenary event, said "it was told by festival organisers that no sports federations had been given official status."

"No other federation asked to use this label," an FFR spokesman said. "The committee is withholding the bicentenary label to punish us because certain players went to South Africa."

The match is scheduled for October 4 at the Stade de France in Paris. It will be the first time since 1905 that France has played a test match against the British Lions.

The match is part of the 200th anniversary celebrations of the French revolution. The French Rugby Federation (FFR) said today it believed the decision by bicentenary organisers not to recognise the match as part of this year's festivities was a reprisal for this summer's tour of South Africa by an international team including eight French players.

The federation, which has billed the match for months as a bicentenary event, said "it was told by festival organisers that no sports federations had been given official status."

"No other federation asked to use this label," an FFR spokesman said. "The committee is withholding the bicentenary label to punish us because certain players went to South Africa."

The match is scheduled for October 4 at the Stade de France in Paris. It will be the first time since 1905 that France has played a test match against the British Lions.

The match is part of the 200th anniversary celebrations of the French revolution. The French Rugby Federation (FFR) said today it believed the decision by bicentenary organisers not to recognise the match as part of this year's festivities was a reprisal for this summer's tour of South Africa by an international team including eight French players.

The federation, which has billed the match for months as a bicentenary event, said "it was told by festival organisers that no sports federations had been given official status."

"No other federation asked to use this label," an FFR spokesman said. "The committee is withholding the bicentenary label to punish us because certain players went to South Africa."

The match is scheduled for October 4 at the Stade de France in Paris. It will be the first time since 1905 that France has played a test match against the British Lions.

The match is part of the 200th anniversary celebrations of the French revolution. The French Rugby Federation (FFR) said today it believed the decision by bicentenary organisers not to recognise the match as part of this year's festivities was a reprisal for this summer's tour of South Africa by an international team including eight French players.

The federation, which has billed the match for months as a bicentenary event, said "it was told by festival organisers that no sports federations had been given official status."

"No other federation asked to use this label," an FFR spokesman said. "The committee is withholding the bicentenary label to punish us because certain players went to South Africa."

The match is scheduled for October 4 at the Stade de France in Paris. It will be the first time since 1905 that France has played a test match against the British Lions.

Amateur boxing journey under way

MOSCOW, Sept. 18, (AP) — The World Boxing Championships are under way with a new scoring system and an old face.

Pablo Stevenson who won two world titles and three Olympic medals, is now the assistant coach of yet another powerful boxing team. At Moscow, the 37-year-old Stevenson is at the helm of his last Olympic championship team.

The International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA), sensing criticism of judging in previous Olympics and world championships, has adopted a computer scoring system developed by the Soviets.

Each of the five judges for a bout push a button to record a scoring punch. If three of the judges record a punch within one second, it is recorded by a computer as a scoring blow.

"We expected the results of judging this competition will be acceptable to all," Professor Anwar Choudhry of Pakistan, AIBA president, said yesterday. "If the judges play the game straight, you will be quite impressed."

The system was used at both the European and world junior championships.

American officials said the system caused a lot of confusion at the junior worlds in Puerto Rico in August.

Cuba won seven gold medals at the last world championships in 1986 at Reno, Nev., and should do at least as well this year.

The 12 Cuban boxers had a combined record of 2,512-249 going into this tournament. The most experienced Cuban was Roberto Balado, Stevenson's 21-year-old replacement in the super-heavyweight division. He has a mere 114 victories against 13 losses.

Heading the Cuban squad are Pablo Romero, 29, a world champion in 1982 and 1986, who has a 224-21 record, and 30-year-old Pedro Reyes, a 1986 world champion who has a 332-20 mark.

Reyes will be involved in the first US-Cuba showdown when he boxes Lionel Odom tonight. Odom, of New York, will turn 19 tomorrow.

There are numerous Olympic veterans in the 236-boxer field and one of them was beaten in the first bout of the tournament.

Ivalo Marinov of Bulgaria, who outpointed American Michael Carbajal for the gold medal at the Seoul Olympics, was outpointed by Robert Isaszegi of Hungary in a 106-pound bout.

None of the Olympic veterans are Americans. The US team is a young one and lacking in international experience.

US officials would be very happy with a medal or two of any colour, let alone matching the three golds they won at the 1986 World Championships.

Cuba opened action yesterday when Enrique Carrion, a Central American champion, outpointed Benjamin Falcon of Mexico.

Riders injured

BRADFORD, England, Sept. 18, (AP) — Four riders, including former world speedway champion Erik Gundersen of Denmark, were injured in a crash during the World Team Cup final at Odsal, Bradford, yesterday.

Kasparov and Korchnoi lead

TILBURG, Netherlands, Sept. 18, (AP) — World champion Garry Kasparov of the Soviet Union and Switzerland's Viktor Korchnoi won their games in third-round action to take an early lead in the standings of the 15th annual Interpolis chess tournament yesterday.

Kasparov overcame Hungarian grandmaster Gyula Sax, who was not in his usual form and seemed to be struggling more with himself than with his opponent, while Korchnoi remained alongside the world champion on the strength of a lucky win against Norway's Simon Agdestein.

Playing white against Sax's Sicilian defense, Kasparov opted for the Keres attack, an aggressive theoretical variation that the Hungarian usually handles expertly.

In the recent World Cup tournament in Rotterdam, Britain's Nigel Short was lucky to come away with a draw when he tried the same line against Sax, and Kasparov initially did not do much better.

The world champion sacrificed a pawn without getting anything to show for it, but he returned with a vengeance when Sax fumbled the continuation and completely blundered away his advantage with a strange knight manoeuvre at his 16th.

Sax prolonged the struggle for

NEW YORK, Sept. 18, (AP) — Philadelphia Eagles scored two touchdowns in the final 1:48 including the game-winning after a 77-yard run with a fumble recovery. In a 42-37 victory yesterday over the Washington Redskins.

The winning score came with 52 seconds left on Randall Cunningham's third of five touchdown passes, a 4-yarder to Keith Jackson.

In the rest of the NFL, it was the Los Angeles Rams 31, Indianapolis 17; San Francisco 20, Tampa Bay 16; Chicago 38, Minnesota 7; New York Giants 24, Detroit 14; Cincinnati 41, Pittsburgh 10; Atlanta 27, Dallas 21; Miami 24, New England 16; Green Bay 35, New Orleans 34; Kansas City 24, Los Angeles Raiders 38; Cleveland 38, New York Jets 24; Phoenix 34, Seattle 24; and Houston 34, San Diego 27. In this evening's game Denver was at Buffalo.

Rams 31, Colts 17. Jim Everett and Henry Ellard combined on a record-setting pass-catch show, upstaging Eric Dickerson's homecoming for Indianapolis.

Eagles 20, Buccaneers 14.

Joe Montana faked a handoff and ran around right end, scoring from 4 yards out with 40 seconds left and ending a frustrating day for the San Francisco 49ers in victory over Tampa Bay.

Bears 38, Vikings 7. Neal Anderson scored three touchdowns, one on a 24-yard pass from Mike Tomczak and two others on runs of two and 13 yards as the Bears beat the Vikings for the first time since 1987.

Giants 24, Lions 14.

Phil Simms completed 12 of 14 passes in the second half, setting up three touchdowns and waking up the giants sleeping offense as New York came back from an 11-point deficit to beat Detroit.



Neal Anderson (left) scored three touchdowns.

Bengals 41, Steelers 13.

Cincinnati extended its home-field winning streak to 11 games, building a 20-3 halftime lead and handing the Steelers their second straight rout.

Falcons 27, Cowboys 21.

Atlanta came back from an 11-

point deficit behind the passing of Chris Miller, giving the Cowboys their first 0-2 start since 1963. Miller completed 21 of 29 passes for 255 yards.

Dolphins 24, Patriots 10.

Dan Marino threw for three first-half touchdowns, leading

Miami (1-1) over the Patriots (1-1). The Dolphins capitalised on bungled punts on the Patriots' first two possessions.

Packers 35, Saints 34.

Don Majkowski's 3-yard touchdown pass to sterling Sharpe with 1:26 left rallied Green Bay

Montana takes 49ers past Buccaneers

Eagles fight back to defeat Redskins

Dynamo outclass Capitals

MOSCOW, Sept. 18, (AP) — The Hunter Brothers from tiny Oil Springs, Ontario, had to settle for a weekend split in the Soviet Union.

Dale Hunter and his Washington Capitals teammates were pounded 7-2 yesterday by Moscow Dynamo, one night after Mark Hunter scored twice to lead the Calgary Flames past Kiev Sokol 5-2.

"It doesn't happen every day. It's a good experience for both of us," said Mark, who bumped into his brother at the Luzhniki Ice Arena in Moscow when the Flames practised a few hours before the Capitals' game.

The Hunters spend the off-season working with their parents on a farm in Oil Springs, a 300-person town in southern Ontario. Their dad made the trip to the Soviet Union, taking the place reserved for Mark's pregnant wife, but their mother is at home.

Father Richard Hunter said he traveled with another son, Dave, to a junior tournament in Czechoslovakia in the 1970s.

"When my wife and I were in Czechoslovakia we said we'd never be back," he said. "But here I'm back and with two sons playing."

Dale got an assist in last night's game, but he and his teammates were outplayed and outskated by Dynamo as the Moscow club became the first Soviet team to defeat an NHL club on Soviet ice.

(1-1) over New Orleans (1-1), which led 24-7 at halftime.

Chiefs 24, Raiders 19.

Kansas City came back from a 19-17 deficit on Christian Okoye's 1-yard TD run with 7:51 to play.

Oilers 34, Chargers 27.

Warren Moon threw two touchdown passes and ran for another, and Houston forced five turnovers.

Standings

American Conference

East

Buffalo

Miami

New England

Indianapolis

NY Jets

Central

Cleveland

Cincinnati

Houston

Pittsburgh

West

Denver

Kansas City

L.A. Raiders

San Diego

Seattle

National Conference

East

N.Y. Giants

Philadelphia

Phoenix

Dallas

Washington

Central

Chicago

Green Bay

Minnesota

Tampa Bay

Detroit

West

L.A. Rams

San Francisco

Atlanta

New Orleans

Martinez rallies past Burgin to take title

PHOENIX, Sept. 18, (UPI) — Top-seeded Conchita Martinez recovered from an opening set loss and rallied past Elise Burgin 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 last night to capture her third title of the year at the \$100,000 Virginia Sims of Arizona.

"I'm very happy to win the tournament. I think it is very important win for me," said the 21-year-old, who collected the \$17,000 winner's check. Burgin earned \$8,500.

Martinez was pressured from the outset as Burgin, who had not won a singles title since capturing Charleston three years ago, strung together points with perfectly placed volleys which kept the Spaniard off balance.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do, and my passing shots were not good in the beginning," Martinez said.

"She also hit me hard," Burgin said. "I never faced a player as hard as her."

"She played really well in the first set. I think she missed one, maybe two volleys."

But Martinez regrouped, found the range, and began to pass the left-hander, ranked No. 83 worldwide, with a barrage of topspin forehands from the baseline.

She evened the match taking the second set on the strength of an opening game service break, and continued to roll in the third as well.

An opening game break gave her another 2-0 advantage that the Spaniard extended to 5-1 with yet another break in the sixth game.

At 5-2, Martinez served out the match to end the 1 hour, 34 minute contest.

"I think after I got the break to go ahead 2-0 in the second set, I began to take control," said Martinez.

"I think she played very well, she had to," said Burgin, of Baltimore, MD., a semifinalist in the phoenix tournament last year. "I played very well. I didn't lose, she beat me."

Fernandez and White win

TOKYO, Sept. 18, (AP) — The top-seeded American pair of Gigi Fernandez and Robin White needed just 55 minutes to trounce Australians Elizabeth Smylie and Wendy Turnbull 6-2, 6-2 yesterday for the Virginia Sims international women's doubles title.

The winning team received \$60,000 and the runners-up \$30,000.

US sisters Cammy and Cynthia MacGregor rallied to beat Japan's Maya Kidowaki and Kimiko Date 1-6, 6-2, 6-1 for third place, worth \$18,000.

Sandy Collins of the United States and Andrea Temesvari of Hungary took fifth, beating Australians Jenny Byrne and Janine Thompson 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 on the artificial courts of the National Yoyogi Gymnasium annex.

by chess blindness.

In an effort to avoid a simple queen's check, Agdestein misplaced his king on the open B line, inviting an all out black offensive that gave Korchnoi a fully undeserved victory at his 55th.

The two other games of the day were less eventful and both ended in a draw.

Holland's Jeroen Piket played it safe after losing his games in the two previous rounds and settled for the half point after a mere 17 moves with white from a queen's gambit against Ljubomir Ljubojevic of Yugoslavia.

Iceland's Johann Hjartarson fought back from an inferior position with black to reach the same result against Vassili Ivanchuk of the Soviet Union in 29 moves from an open Ruy Lopez.

"I thought I was losing," commented Hjartarson after the contest, "but the post-mortem showed my fears were imaginary. All it took was some secure play."

Asked about Ivanchuk's behaviour during the game, which was criticized severely by Korchnoi the day before, Hjartarson said it is "true he moves about a lot in his chair, but it all depends on whether you allow yourself to be disturbed or not."

"Personally, I don't care, and I don't think he does it on purpose," he said.



Garry Kasparov

another 15 moves but might just as well have resigned immediately.

Korchnoi, meanwhile, was fighting for his life with black in a Gruenfeld-Indian defense from which Agdestein had gradually built up a vastly superior position.

In the press room, experts like Swedish grandmaster Ulf Andersson and West Germany's Eric Lobron were already debating how Agdestein would work his way to a win, when their Norwegian colleague in the tournament hall was suddenly struck



555
Stands out for taste

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

Teams prepare for championships

Kuwait to play nine matches

KUWAIT'S teams have started intensive training for next month's Peace and Friendship Championship, being hosted by Kuwait from Oct 30 to Nov 12.

The Kuwait national football team will play nine matches with teams from different countries, with the first to be played this evening.

In this evening's match Kuwait play China at Kazma stadium at 6.00 pm. The other matches will be against Qatar on Sept 22 at Kazma at 6 pm, Egypt on Sept 25 at Kazma at 6 pm, UAE in Emirates, Romania at Arabi stadium at 6 pm, Yugoslavia at Kazma at 6 pm, Syria in Syria, Lusanne and Norway in Kuwait.

The Kuwait national handball team is also preparing for the championship. The coach of the team, Zorran said that two training camps will be held for 21 days in Holland and Yugoslavia. The team will play two matches in Holland against Holland and Belgium and 4 matches in Yugoslavia, one of them against the national team.

The Kuwait Athletic Federation has prepared an extensive training programme for its players who will participate in the Peace and Friendship Championship. The federation officials will hold a meeting tomorrow with referees and supervisors of athletic events at sports clubs to explain the federation's plan for the tournament.

Meanwhile, delegations and teams from over 40 Islamic countries

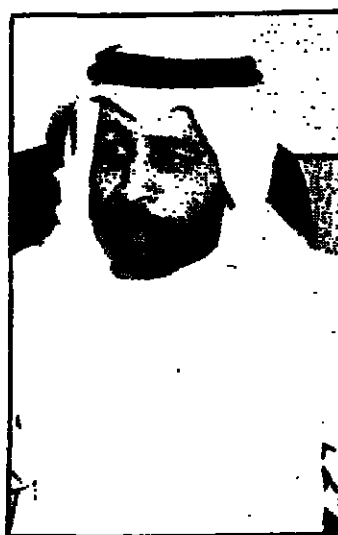


Sheikh Fahd

tries, taking part in the first ever Peace and Friendship Championship, will start arriving in Kuwait from Oct 28. The director of the Public Relations Committee of the championship, Abdul Hamid Mohammad said that a reception committee will be set up shortly and will assume its duties before Oct 20 to welcome the participating teams and officials.

Abdul Hamid added that his committee is now studying the possibility of making the teams and delegates stay at one place according to the game they are taking part in.

There are five events in the tournament: football, handball, volleyball, basketball and athletics. There are about eight



Abdul Hamid

countries participating in each event, with Kuwait taking part in all.

Abdul Hamid Mohammad said that all referees will stay at one place and newsmen accompanying the delegations will be allowed to stay with them. He added that the public relations committee will supply the visiting delegations with qualified translators in English and French besides supplying them with all necessary instructions and results of the games. He added that the public relations committee has set up five sub-committees and each of them will be in charge of carrying out definite duties.

In another development, technicians from the Communica-

tions Ministry yesterday inspected all the telecommunications equipment at the media centre of the championship. More checkings will be done at short intervals till the championship starts. Also the technicians of the Ministry of Information yesterday made the necessary arrangements for the TV telecasts to the participating countries.

The organising committee of the championship has also decided to organise a competition for the best article, proposal, picture and press coverage. The committee will provide cash awards for first, second and third place of each of the four categories and will range between KD50 and KD1,000. The subjects of all the four competitions should be about an aspect of the championship. The highest prize will be given for the best press coverage in daily newspapers with the winner getting KD1,000.

The Kuwaiti administration expects the championship to be a tough test of its ability to hold such huge events.

In order to ensure the success of the championship, sports clubs/foundations have decided to put all their resources at the disposal of the organising committee of games.

With the start of the countdown for the big event, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, chairman of the Kuwait Football Association, Kuwait Olympic Committee, Olympic Council of Asia and deputy chairman of the organising committee, reviewed all mat-

ters concerning the event at a meeting on Sunday.

The director of the championship, Mohammed Othman, said that it was planned to have a number of such meetings during the coming days in order to remain upto date on the preparations being made for the championship.

It was also decided at the meeting that the daily report of the championship would be in three different languages. The Ministry of Information has agreed to publish the daily report, after a request made in this regard to the ministry by Sheikh Fahd. The organising committee also decided to write to the Information Ministry about the facilities to be provided to the visiting delegations to help in the coverage of the event.

Another subject discussed at the meeting was an agreement with an international company to produce a documentary film of the championships.

The organisers also agreed to ask companies to participate in the production of leaflets welcoming the foreign delegations to Kuwait.

The meeting also decided to write to the Ministry of Information in regard to the use of vacant spaces on the streets and various fields for posting flags.

The committee, meanwhile, approved the list of official guests to be invited to attend the championship.

The first rehearsal of the opening ceremony is scheduled to take place on October 4.



Bijoy M. (right) and Cherian after the match

Bijoy and Cherian score easy victory

BIJOY M. and Philip Cherian reached the semifinals of the men's doubles at the Indian Arts Circle (IAC) badminton tournament with a 15-7 15-4 victory over Saji Verghese and Verghese Joseph on Sunday evening.

After giving away only seven points in the first, Bijoy and Cherian were more miser in the second as they cruised to victory in straight sets.

Remy John and John Kurian had even an easier time against Nirmala Nair and Cherian A. in the mixed doubles. Remy and Kurian gave away only nine points in their 15-2 15-7 victory.

The junior boys singles saw Suresh Ramachandran reach the finals with a 13-15 15-4 15-11 victory over Joseph C. Philip.

In the veterans singles, Bal Sharma beat G.S. Praya 15-6 15-3 on his way to the finals while Reji Joseph crushed Reji Verghese 15-5 15-4.

Remy Tharian and Bobby Tharian assured themselves of a place in the finals after fighting back to win 3-15 15-7 15-11 in the couples doubles against Remy Ashok and J. Ashok Kumar. And in the last event, Anju Abraham was awarded a walk-over in the ladies singles against Dr Mrs Srivastava.

Today's fixtures:
Men's singles: Mathew N.C. vs Reji Joseph (8.30 pm) - semifinal.

Mixed doubles: Bijoy M. and Gina Antony vs Sobia Nair and Philip Cherian (9.15 pm) (semifinals).

Ladies doubles: Asha Kutty



Bal Sharma

and Viji Kutty vs Saji Verghese and Verghese Joseph (7.00 pm) - semifinals.

Finals - Couples doubles: Remy Tharian and Bobby Tharian vs Saji Verghese and Verghese Joseph (7.30 pm).

Finals - Veterans doubles: Bal Sharma and Jacob Mathew vs M.M. Joshi and G.S. Praya (8 pm).

Plaziat wins, Thompson pulls out



Daley Thompson

TALENCE, France, Sept. 18, (Reuters): Christian Plaziat of France won an international decathlon yesterday after Briton Daley Thompson, twice Olympic champion, pulled out with an injured knee.

Overnight leader Plaziat completed an unbeaten season in which he has triumphed over all the world's top decathletes by winning with 8,438 points, 77 ahead of American Dave Johnson.

Johnson holds the world's best performance for 1989 with 8,549-points tally he set in the US National Championships.

Thompson, a disappointing ninth at the halfway stage in his only decathlon of the year, withdrew before the start of the second day after hurting his knee in the high jump on Saturday.

But the 31-year-old Briton, who has dominated the event over the past decade, said he had no intention of retiring and planned to compete in next year's Commonwealth Games and European Championships. He said he would also return to Talence in 1989.

Plaziat, who exchanged sharp words with Thompson this week over who is the world's best decathlete, was in modest mood after his win. "The level he

has attained over the last 12 years is truly unbelievable," he said of Thompson.

"He remains my idol. He is still the greatest in the world."

But Plaziat was, nevertheless, delighted with his own form even if a poor 52.82-metre javelin throw cost him the chance of beating his own French record.

"I didn't get the best performance of the year but I did beat everybody and that was my goal," he said. Plaziat has beaten East German Olympic champion Christian Schenk, absent from Talence, twice this season.

Johnson, who beat promising Canadian Michael Smith into third place, also had words of praise for Thompson. "Daley Thompson is the greatest athlete I ever met in my life," he said.

In the heptathlon, Larisa Nikitina of the Soviet Union beat a field weakened by the late withdrawal of Olympic champion Jackie Joyner-Kersey of the United States.

Nikitina, who set a European record of 7,007 points this summer, totalled 6,599 points, 224 more than her compatriot Regina Nasarovitch.

CRICKET

Ranatunga to lead Sri Lanka in Nehru Cup

COLOMBO, Sept. 18, (Reuters): Arjuna Ranatunga was picked today to lead Sri Lanka in the Nehru Cup one-day cricket tournament in India next month.

Ranatunga takes over the captaincy from Ranjan Madugalle who was omitted from the squad following recent poor form.

All-rounder Ravi Ratnayake was named vice-captain. Left-handed batsman Asanka Gurusinghe, who missed the Sri Lanka tour of England and the Asia Cup in Bangladesh through injury, has been recalled.

Sri Lanka will join England, West Indies, Australia, Pakistan and hosts India in the three-week competition.

Squad: Arjuna Ranatunga (captain), Ravi Ratnayake (vice-captain), Roshan Mahanama, Brendon Kuruppu, Aravinda de Silva, Asanka Gurusinghe, Hashan Tillekeratne, Athula Samarasekera, Lalithanana Fernando, Graeme Labrooy, Champaka Ramanayake, Asoka de Silva, Don Anurasiri, Kapila Wijegunawardene.

Brazil lead

PERTH, Australia, Sept. 18, (Reuters): Brazil today took an unexpected lead against Poland in the Bermuda Bowl World Bridge Team Championship semifinals.

The first 32-board segment ended with Brazil, winners of the qualifying rounds, leading the European champions by 65 to 40 points.

In the other semifinal, the United States, defending champions, lead Australia by 103 points to 25.

Brazilian Grand Prix

Kevin Schwantz (34) of the United States leads Eddie Lawson on his way to victory in the Brazilian Motorcycle Grand Prix, held in Goiania on Sunday. Schwantz won the race but Lawson took the overall title.

Meanwhile, Australia's Wayne Gardner, the 1987 motorcycle world champion, announced today he would continue riding for the Honda team which guided arch rival Lawson to his fourth world title.

Gardner, who missed five Grands Prix this season with a broken leg, told reporters he had rejected the advances of several rival teams to sign a two-year contract with the team he has represented since 1982. (Reuters wirephoto)

The fragrance for men



BOSS
HUGO BOSS

Agent: Ahmed M. S. Al Khalil & Partner
Tel. 2422583-2414899

Essex clinch crown

BIRMINGHAM, England, Sept. 18, (Reuters): Eddie Hemmings narrowly failed a repeat performance of heroics as Essex beat Nottinghamshire by five runs in the English Sunday League Cup final at Edgbaston.

Two months ago the England off-spinner clubbed a match-winning boundary off the last ball in the Benson and Hedges one-day final between the same two teams.

But faced with an almost identical situation yesterday, with Notts needing six runs from the last three deliveries, Hemmings went for a big hit but succeeded only in hoisting the ball into the hands of Mark Waugh at long-on.

Hemmings, who had earlier smashed paceman Neil Foster for two sixes, was dismissed for

24 and Notts were all out for 155 in reply to Essex's 160 for five in their 40 overs.

For Essex, it was some consolation after narrowly losing out in the county championship and two one-day competitions during the season.

Derek Pringle with four for 20 was mainly responsible for stunning Notts' victory bid after Paul Prichard had boosted a shaky Essex batting performance with an aggressive 56 which earned him the Man of the Match award.

He and Nasser Hussain (32) plundered 72 from the final 10 overs. Prichard scored his runs from 84 balls and Hussain hit a quick-fire 32 before both became sacrificial run-out victims in the last over of the innings.

Skylark and Deccan Blue win openers



Syed Afridi plays the first ball.

SKYLARK and Deccan Blue won their opening matches of the inaugural Haji Memorial Cricket Tournament at the Salmiya Cricket Club grounds on Friday.

Skylark beat ACC by 86 runs while Deccan Blue outclassed SCC by six wickets. Both the matches were played in the morning.

In the first match, Skylark won the toss and elected to bat. Skylark batsmen were in form and managed to put on 211 runs for the loss of only six wickets in the 30 allotted overs. Salim was the top scorer with 65 while Philip hit 42, Marvin 33 and Victor 26.

In reply, ACC found the going tough against some accurate Skylark bowling and were all out for 125. James, Safim, Lancy, Abid and Marvin were the wicket-takers for Skylark.

In the second match, Salmiya Cricket Club (SCC) opted to make first use of the wicket after winning the toss but suffered an early setback when captain Rana Ashraf was bowled at the start of their innings. SCC were put further in trouble when Haji was run out.

SCC were never able to pull themselves out of trouble and the whole team was out for only 149 runs in 27 overs. Aslam Fani was the only batsman to put up a fight as he scored 61.

Deccan Blue found the SCC bowling to their liking when they batted and overhauled the score for the loss of only four wickets in 24 overs. Javed Kaloo was the top Deccan Blue scorer with 45 while Ijaz hit 37 and Rao 34.

Before the start of the matches, the tournament was opened by Pakistan embassy Charge d'Affaires Syed Akbar Afridi, who hit the first ball. After this opening ceremony, both the teams were introduced to Afridi by Mohammed Hasib Khan, the tournament secretary.

On Friday, Bombay Youth play ACC while Hilto face Deccan Blue.

MCC beat Evergreen

MOGHUL Cricket Club (MCC) beat Evergreen by four wickets in the opening match of the GCL League A Division at the EPI Ground on Friday.

Evergreen decided to bat first after winning the toss and scored 122 runs for the loss of seven wickets in the 28 overs. Subail was the top scorer with an unbeaten 54 while Mansoor Zakeer hit 21.

For MCC, Ifthikhar Butt took three wickets for 24 runs while Nazeem Butt took two for 24 and Zahid one for 11.

Iqbal opened the innings for MCC along with Tariq but the latter was soon out with the score only 13. Farhat and Iqbal took the score to 43 when Iqbal went for a big hit and was caught at the boundary for 31.

Farhat kept on batting confidently and was unbeaten on 57 when his team went past the victory target for the loss of six wickets. MCC got the runs in 18.2 overs.

Asad Baig took two wickets

SPORTS BRIEFS

Asian volleyball

SEOUL, Sept. 18, (Reuters): Results at the fifth Asian Men's Volleyball Championship today: Iran beat Nepal 3-0 (15-5 15-7 16-14); South Korea beat Thailand 3-0 (15-0 15-8 15-7); Pakistan beat United Arab Emirates 2-0 (15-13 15-13 15-8); Iran beat Bangladesh 3-0 (15-215-3 15-2); Iran beat Australia 3-0 (15-9 15-9 15-6); Taiwan beat Qatar 3-0 (15-2 15-1 15-10); India beat Sri Lanka 3-0 (15-6 15-2 15-5).

Irish regret

DUBLIN, Sept. 18, (Reuters): Ireland's Rugby Football Union said today it regretted its involvement in the recent controversial tour of South Africa and would discourage participation in future tours.

Watson plans

SYDNEY, Sept. 18, (Reuters): Australian modern pentathlete Alex Watson plans to take the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to a sports arbitration court in an attempt to have his disqualification from the Seoul Olympics overturned.

French Open

BRISBANE, Australia, Sept. 18, (AP): Ivan Lendl, the world's top-ranked tennis player, is considering skipping next year's French Open tennis championships in order to prepare properly for Wimbledon. Lendl's coach Tony Roche said today.

Seiko tennis

TOKYO, Sept. 18, (AP): Boris Becker, the 1989 Wimbledon and US Open champion, will lead a field of 32 men in the \$627,500 Seiko Super tennis tournament Oct 17-22, organizers said today. The tournament, part of the Nabisco Grand Prix series, will be played on the artificial court of the indoor Yoyogi National Stadium, they said.

Irish angry

DUBLIN, Sept. 18, (Reuters): The decision to switch the English St Leger from Doncaster to Ayr has angered Irish horse racing authorities because it now clashes with Saturday's Irish St Leger. The St Leger, last classic of the English flat racing season, will be the first classic to be run in Scotland following the discovery of subsidence at Doncaster last Friday.

Track meet

PADUA, Italy, Sept. 18, (AP): Reinaldo Nehemiah, Jim Spivey and Gordon Laime of the United States posted less than impressive wins in yesterday's "Trufo Industrial" track and field meet in this north Italian city. Soviet stars Sergey Bubka and Yuriy Sedykh captured the pole vault and the hammer at ease. Both were far distant from their world marks.

Half-marathon

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 18, (AP): Mustafa Nischand battled for the men's half-marathon and Nan Doak-Davis easily captured the women's title in the half-marathon Philadelphia distance run yesterday. Each winner received \$4,000. Nischand was among four runners who controlled the 13-mile (20-kilometre) race from the 8-mile (12-kilometre) mark.

World record

ADRIAN, Michigan, Sept. 18, (AP): Bobby Livingston, a 24-year-old professional bicycle racer from Atlanta, set a world record for human-powered speed on water yesterday, peddling a hydrofoil craft at an average speed of nearly 19 mph (more than 30 kph). The record was set during the 15th annual International Human Powered Speed Championships, sanctioned by the International Human Powered Vehicle Association.

Top horse

LONDON, Sept. 18, (AP): The future of Nashwan, hailed as one of Europe's best race horses of the last decade, was in serious doubt today, 24 hours after the previously unbeaten thoroughbred flopped in a warm-up race for the prestigious Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

Malaysian rally

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept. 18, (Kuna): The Rally of Malaysia, scheduled to be flagged off here on Saturday, is all geared up for a clash among the top three foreign contenders - Rod Millen of the United States, Kenji Shinozuka of Japan and Australian Ross Dunkerton.



Farhat, unbeaten 57 for runs, Riaz Chaudhry got two for 20 while Bittu Singh and Waqar got one each. Farhat was named Man of the Match. MCC face Kifco in their next match on Sept. 22 at the NC ground. The match will start at 8.00 pm.

ARAB TIMES

Published by:
Dar Al-Sayassah

Editor-in-Chief

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Editorial Office:

Al-Bustan, Sharjah

P.O. Box 2270

13023 Safat, Kuwait

Telex:

22132 KT

Telephone:

481-5886 (main line)

481-5887 (fax)

Advertisement:

88-8888